

Dykes To Watch Out For **THE SEQUEL**

ADDED ATTRACTION! "SERIAL MONOGAMY"—A DOCUMENTARY

Starring...

FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET (AT MAKING JUDGMENTS)... A WHINE MORE POWERFUL THAN A LOCOMOTIVE'S... ABLE TO LEAP TO DRASTIC CONCLUSIONS IN A SINGLE BOUND... LOOK! SLUMPED IN THE CHAIR! IT'S A NERD! IT'S A PAIN!

IT'S **MO!** OUR PRINCIPLED ANTI-HERDINE FIGHTS A NEVER-ENDING BATTLE FOR TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND OTHER UNAMERICAN WAYS.

DANG,
I FORGOT TO
LAUGH.

Mo

Vanessa

Virginia

BY DAY, MO'S LOVELY CONSORT TOILS QUIETLY FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

BUT IS ALL AS TRANQUIL AS IT **SEEMS** WITH HARRIET?

WHAT HIDDEN SORROWS, WHAT LOFTY THOUGHTS, WHAT SUBLIME YEARNINGS SEETHE BENEATH HER IMPERTURBABLE SURFACE?

I THINK
I'LL CAULK AROUND
THE BATHTUB THIS
AFTERNOON.

Harriet

Lois

Sparrow

Ginger

AH, OUR HOPELESSLY HETEROGENEOUS HOUSEMATES! THE SENSUAL LOIS... THE TRANSCENDENTAL SPARROW... THE RATIONAL GINGER.

THANKS TO THE DEEP PERSONAL RESPECT WHICH UNDERLIES THEIR IDEOLOGICAL AND STYLISTIC DIFFERENCES, THIS VOLATILE TRIO MANAGES TO LIVE TOGETHER QUITE PEACEFULLY.

ON OCCASION.

Digger



I TILL PASSIONATE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! AS OUR EXEMPLARY COUPLE NEARS THEIR TENTH ANNIVERSARY, IT LOOKS LIKE THEIR SEX LIFE IS ALIVE AND WELL.

Toni

WE'RE NOT MAKING LOVE! SHE STOLE MY LAST PAIR OF CLEAN UNDERWEAR AND I'M TRYING TO GET THEM BACK!

LIAR! THEY'RE MINE!



Clarice

WHATEVER. WITH CLARICE BEGINNING HER LAW CAREER AND TONI PLANNING IMMINENT INSEMINATION, THEY SEEM TO BE HURTLING HEADLONG INTO THE BRAVE, NEW WORLD OF LESBIAN NUCLEAR FAMILYHOOD — WATCH OUT, P.T.A.!

With...

Emma



Jezanna

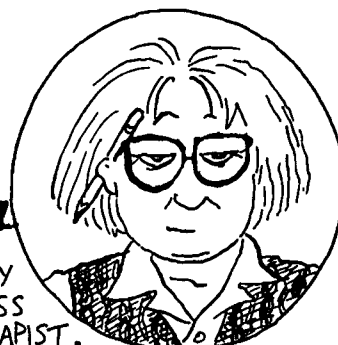
THE SAVVY OWNER AND MANAGER OF THAT JUMPING CULTURAL HOT SPOT, MADWIMMIN BOOKS.



LOIS'S PROVOKINGLY PREOCCUPIED PARAMOUR.

Anya

MO'S THOROUGHLY THANKLESS THERAPIST.



and Introducing...

Yoshiko

LOIS'S QUEER NATION GAL PAL, AND GINGER'S FRESHMAN ENGLISH STUDENT.



Thea

MADWIMMIN'S NEW EMPLOYEE

AND *Malika*

GINGER'S PEN PAL!

YOU CALL THIS STORE ACCESSIBLE? NO WAY CAN A WOMAN IN A WHEELCHAIR REACH THE LESBIAN EROTICA BOOKS!

I CAN'T WAIT!



THE RIFT

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EARLY ONE MORNING...

GOOD MORNING SWEETHEART!

WHAT ARE YOU SO CHEERFUL ABOUT?



IT'S THERAPY DAY!

WHAT?! I THOUGHT YOU SAID THERAPY WAS EGOCENTRIC AND SELF-SERVING AND YOU WERE GONNA QUIT!



I DECIDED TO KEEP GOING. I GUESS IT IS SELF-SERVING, BUT I REALLY LIKE MY THERAPIST.



I THOUGHT YOU SAID SHE WAS COMPLACENT AND OUT OF TOUCH WITH REALITY.



JEEZ, HARRIET, WHAT DO YOU DO, MEMORIZE EVERYTHING I TELL YOU? CAN'T A PERSON CHANGE HER MIND?

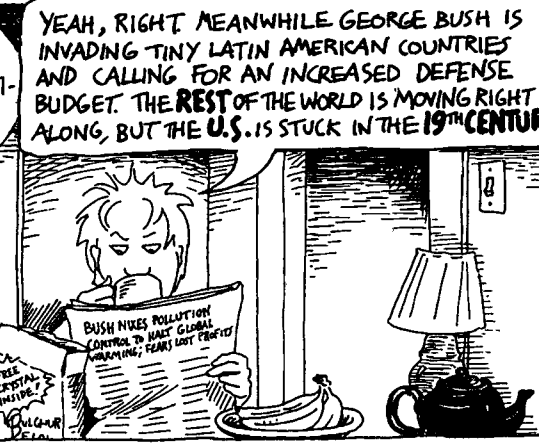
SOME MINUTES HENCE...



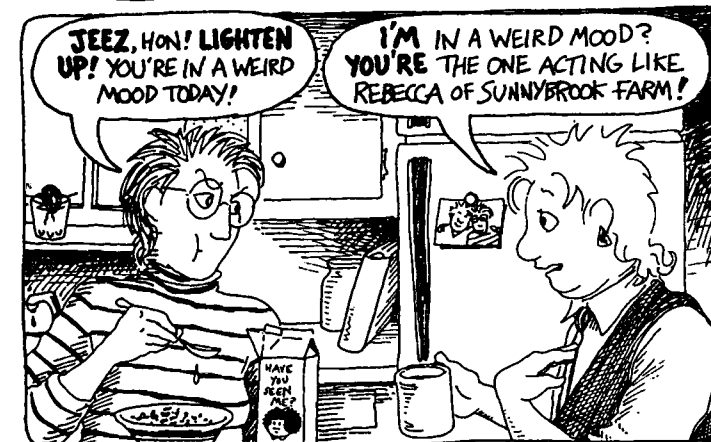
IT'S KIND OF INCREDIBLE WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE NEWS LATELY!



NELSON MANDELA IS FREE, THE BERLIN WALL IS DOWN, THE SOVIET UNION'S GONNA HAVE MULTI-PARTY POLITICS... IT MAKES YOU FEEL ALMOST HOPEFUL ABOUT THE WORLD.



YEAH, RIGHT. MEANWHILE GEORGE BUSH IS INVADING TINY LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND CALLING FOR AN INCREASED DEFENSE BUDGET. THE REST OF THE WORLD IS MOVING RIGHT ALONG, BUT THE U.S. IS STUCK IN THE 19TH CENTURY!



JEEZ, HON! LIGHTEN UP! YOU'RE IN A WEIRD MOOD TODAY!

I'M IN A WEIRD MOOD? YOU'RE THE ONE ACTING LIKE REBECCA OF SUNNYBROOK FARM!



WHAT'S THE MATTER? DON'T YOU WANT ME TO BE HAPPY?

OF COURSE I DO! I'M JUST NOT USED TO IT, THAT'S ALL. MAYBE IF YOU WHINED AND KYETCHED A LITTLE I'D FEEL BETTER.

FREE LUNCH

CLARICE, LOIS & MO TAKE TIME OUT FROM THEIR HECTIC WORKDAY LIVES TO MEET FOR A BITE AT CAFE TOPAZ.

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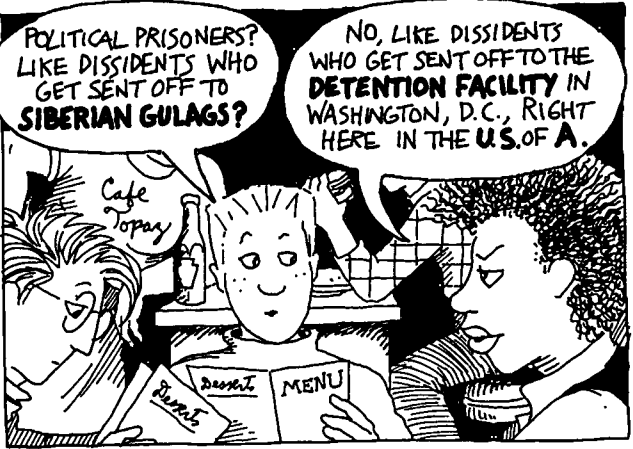
CLARICE! WHADDA THEY DO, LOCK YOU UP IN THAT LAW SCHOOL? I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN WEEKS!

THE SAD PART IS, THEY DON'T NEED TO LOCK ME UP. I SPEND ALL MY TIME THERE VOLUNTARILY.

DOING ANYTHING FUN?

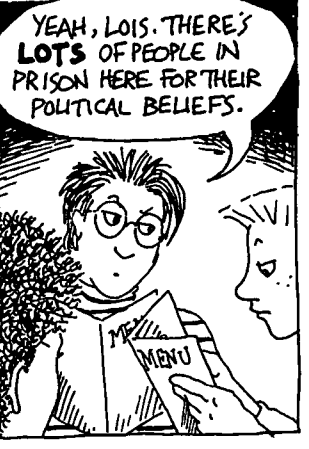


I'M WORKING ON THIS MAJOR PAPER FOR MY INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS SEMINAR. IT'S ABOUT POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND IT'S BLOWING MY MIND.



POLITICAL PRISONERS? LIKE DISSIDENTS WHO GET SENT OFF TO SIBERIAN GULAGS?

NO, LIKE DISSIDENTS WHO GET SENT OFF TO THE DETENTION FACILITY IN WASHINGTON, D.C., RIGHT HERE IN THE U.S. OF A.



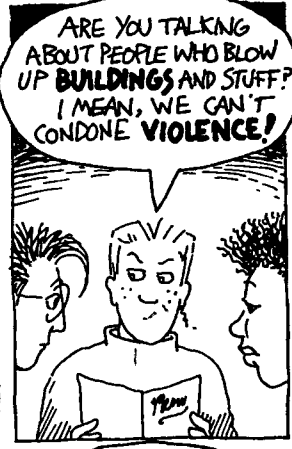
YEAH, LOIS. THERE'S LOTS OF PEOPLE IN PRISON HERE FOR THEIR POLITICAL BELIEFS.



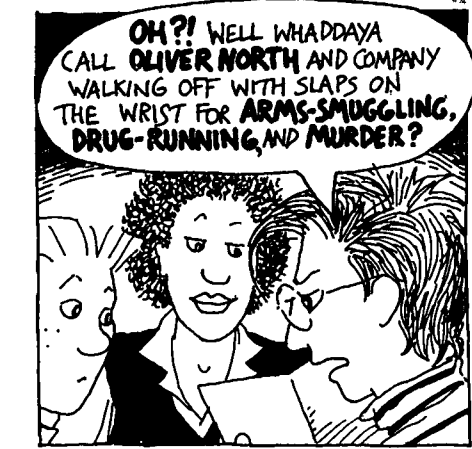
HUH. SAY, IS THE TEMPEH TARTARE WITH STEAMED CELERY GOOD HERE?

OF COURSE THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T ADMIT THEY'RE POLITICAL PRISONERS. THEY CALL 'EM TERRORISTS AND CRIMINALS. WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE TO THINK THIS IS A REPRESSIVE COUNTRY OR ANYTHING.

RIGHT. LET FOLKS HOLD HANDS AROUND A NUCLEAR SUBMARINE BASE OR SHAKE THEIR FISTS AT THE SUPREME COURT ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON. BUT IF SOMEONE THREATENS TO REALLY CHANGE SOMETHING... SLAM! IT'S INTO THE HOOSEGOW!



ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT PEOPLE WHO BLOW UP BUILDINGS AND STUFF? I MEAN, WE CAN'T CONDONE VIOLENCE!



OH?! WELL WHADDA CALL OLIVER NORTH AND COMPANY WALKING OFF WITH SLAPS ON THE WRIST FOR ARMS-SMUGGLING, DRUG-RUNNING, AND MURDER?



YEAH. THEY GO SCOT FREE WHILE PEOPLE WHO RESIST THE VIOLENCE THIS COUNTRY PERPETRATES ARE SPENDING YEARS IN PRISON. RADICAL PEOPLE OF COLOR, ANTI-NUKE ACTIVISTS, CENTRAL AMERICAN SOLIDARITY WORKERS...



AND HERE WE SIT EATING LUNCH.

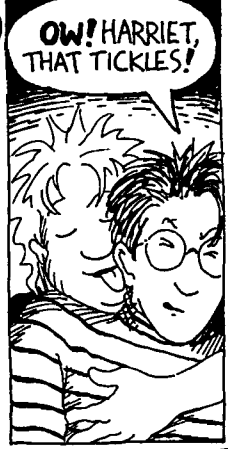
YEAH. JEEZ, I BET YOU DON'T GET TEMPEH TARTARE IN JAIL.

3's a crowd

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... AND THAT'S WHAT MY PROBLEM IS! MY FAMILY WAS DYSFUNCTIONAL!



OW! HARRIET, THAT TICKLES!



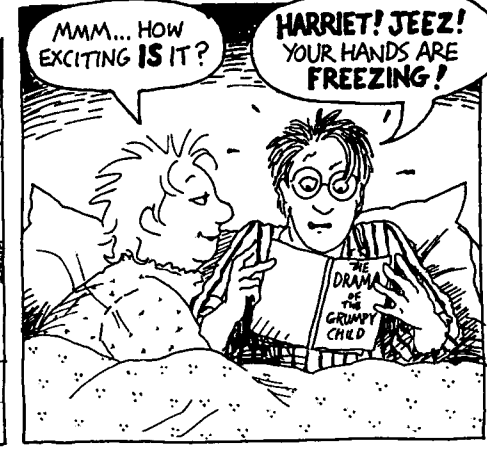
... SO ANYA THINKS MAYBE MY ANXIETY STEMS FROM REPPRESSED ANGER AT MY MOTHER...



HALF AN HOUR LATER...

WANT A BACKRUB?

NO THANKS, SWEETIE. I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF AN EXCITING PART.



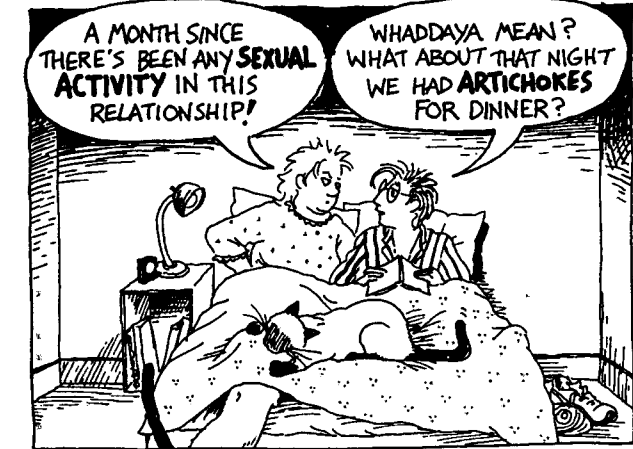
MMM... HOW EXCITING IS IT?

HARRIET! JEEZ! YOUR HANDS ARE FREEZING!



MO, IT'S BEEN A MONTH!

YOUR HANDS HAVE BEEN COLD FOR A MONTH? DID YOU TELL YOUR CHIROPRACTOR?



A MONTH SINCE THERE'S BEEN ANY SEXUAL ACTIVITY IN THIS RELATIONSHIP!

WHADDA MEAN? WHAT ABOUT THAT NIGHT WE HAD ARTICHOKE FOR DINNER?



THAT WAS FOUR WEEKS AGO!

OH.



WELL JEEZ, HARRIET! WHADDA MEAN? I MEAN, A LOT'S BEEN GOING ON FOR ME LATELY, WHAT WITH THERAPY AND ALL... I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE HAVING SEX!



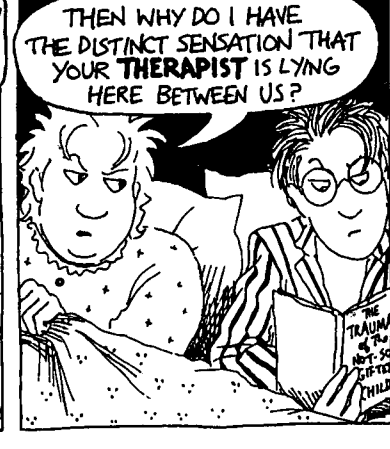
I KNOW THAT, MO. AND I'VE BEEN TRYING NOT TO PRESSURE YOU, BUT A MONTH IS A LONG TIME!



WELL CAN'T YOU, LIKE, TAKE CARE OF IT YOURSELF TILL I'M IN THE MOOD AGAIN?

THAT'S NOT THE POINT! I WANNA BE CLOSE TO YOU!

BUT WE ARE CLOSE! WE'RE RIGHT NEXT TO EACH OTHER!

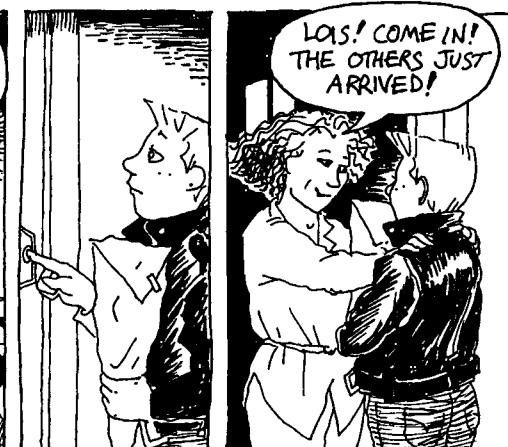
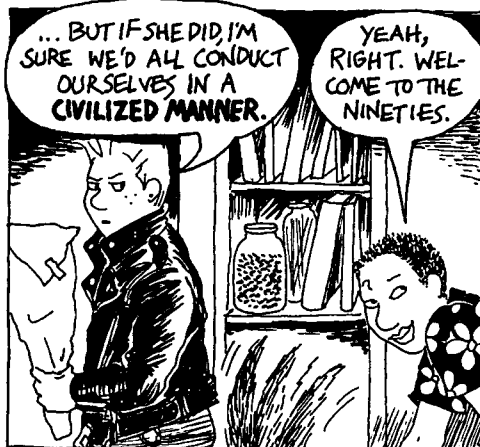
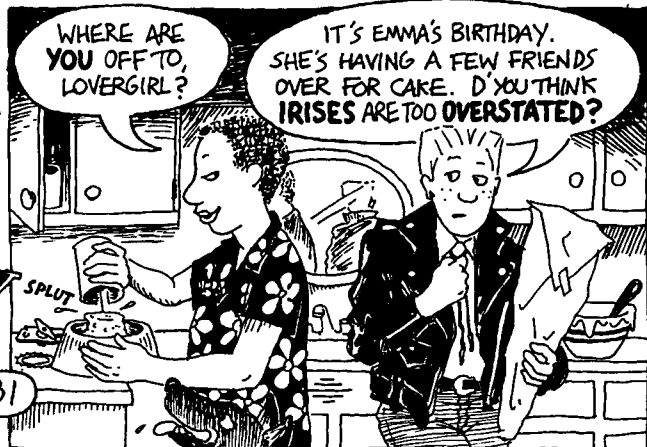


THEN WHY DO I HAVE THE DISTINCT SENSATION THAT YOUR THERAPIST IS LYING HERE BETWEEN US?

ALL IN THE FAMILY

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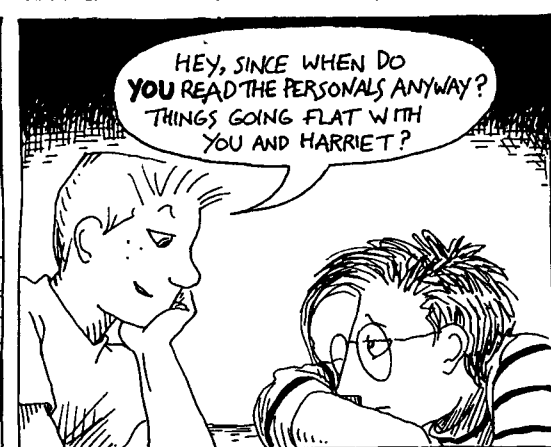
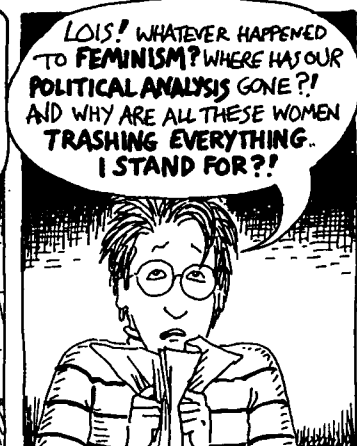
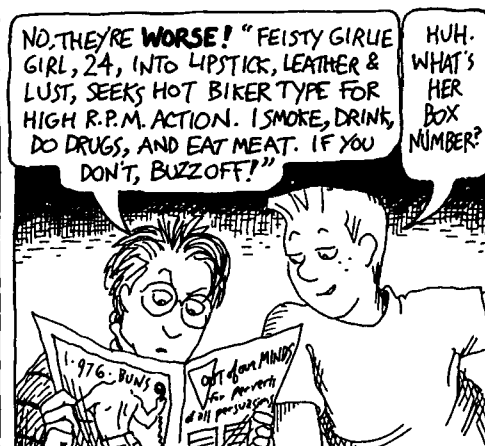
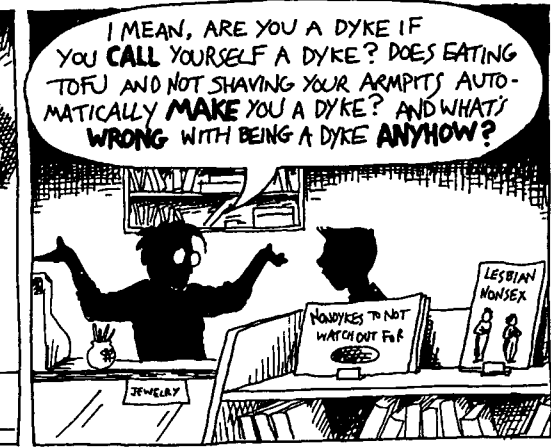
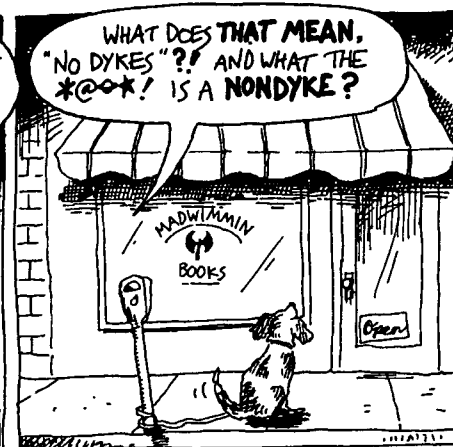
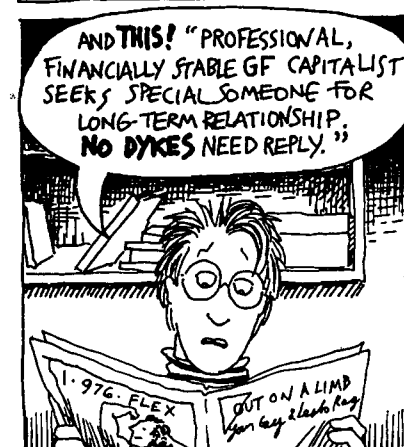
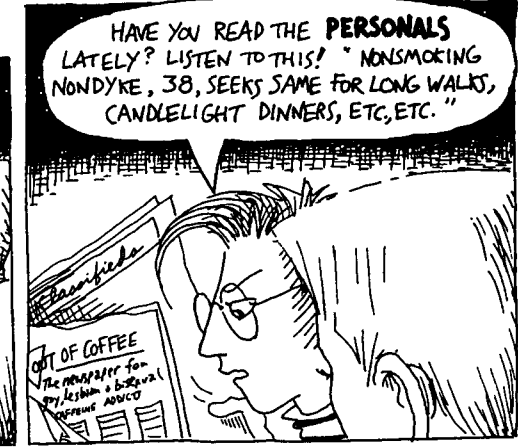
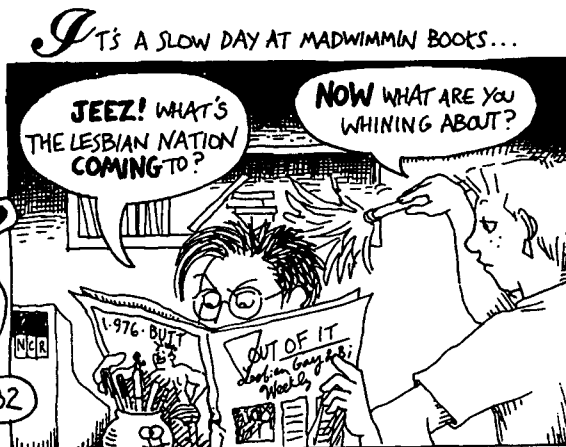
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NO DYKES

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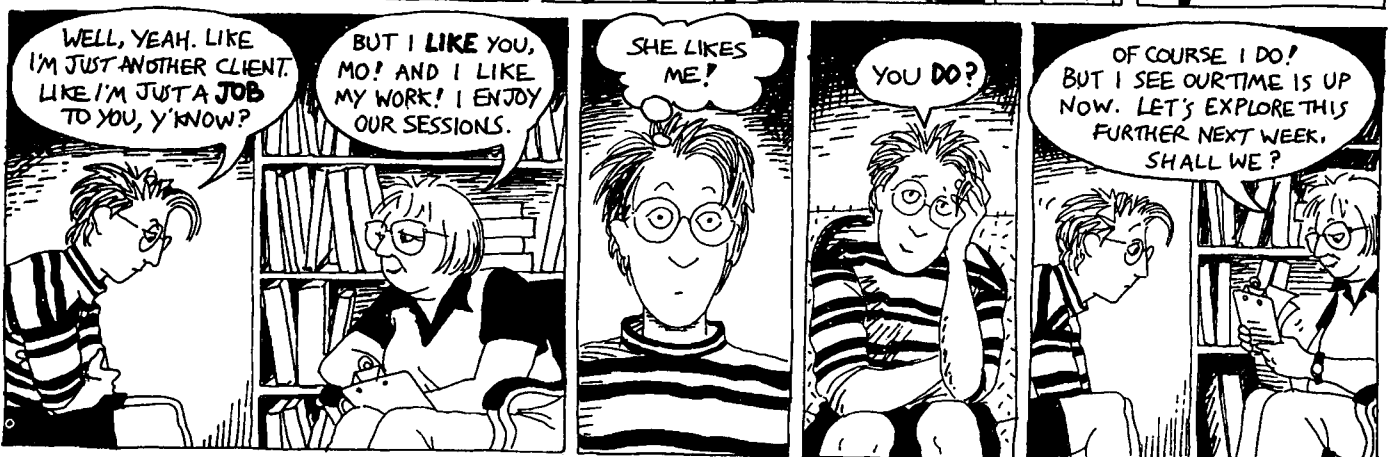
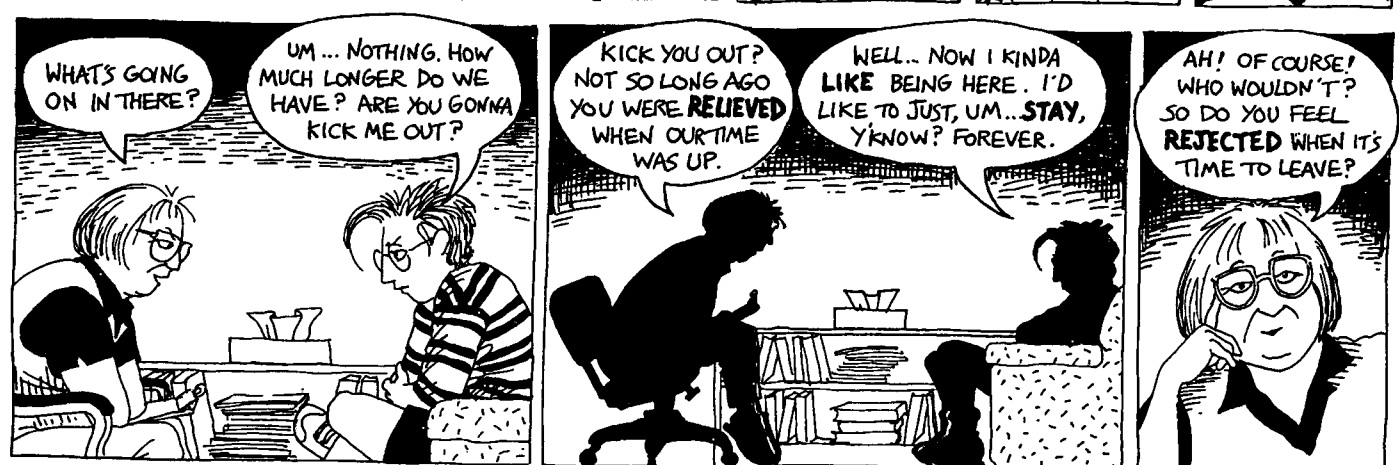
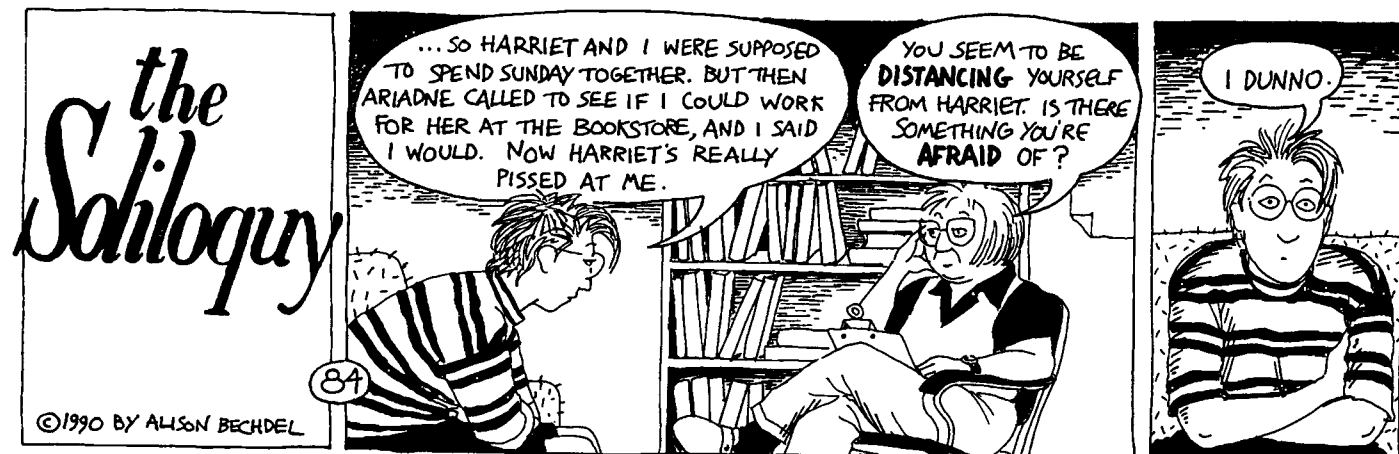
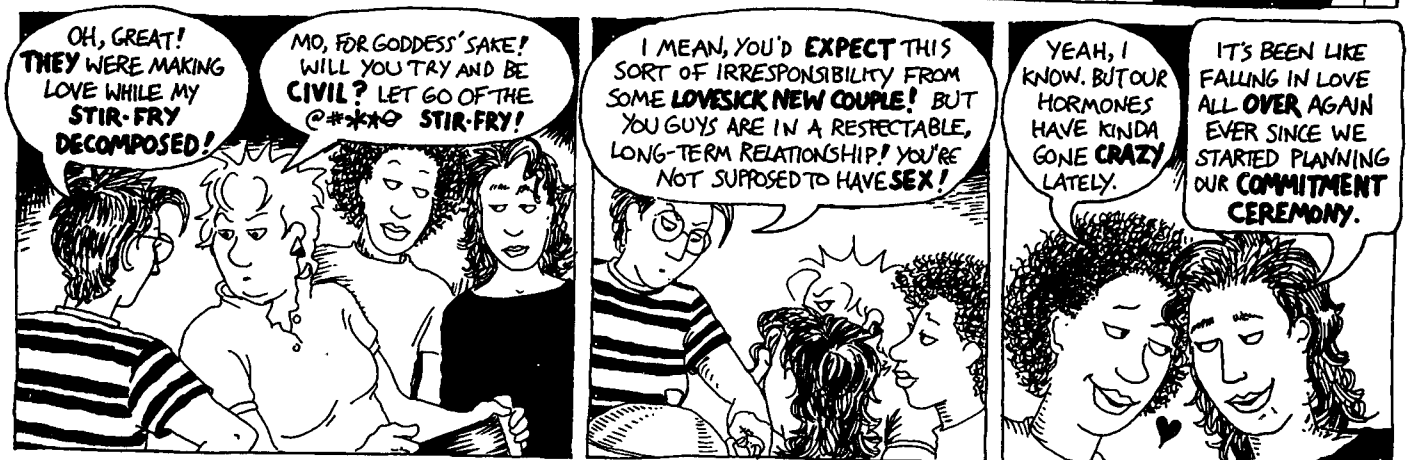
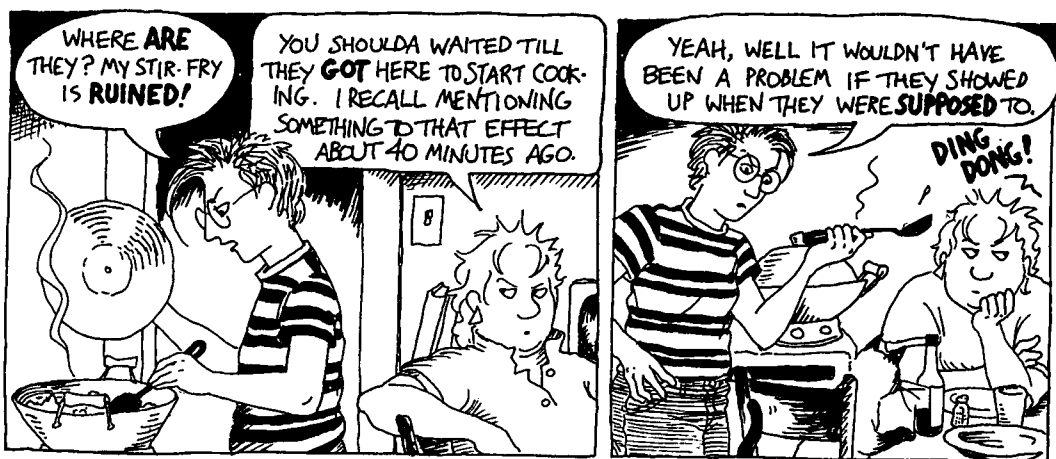
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STARS IN

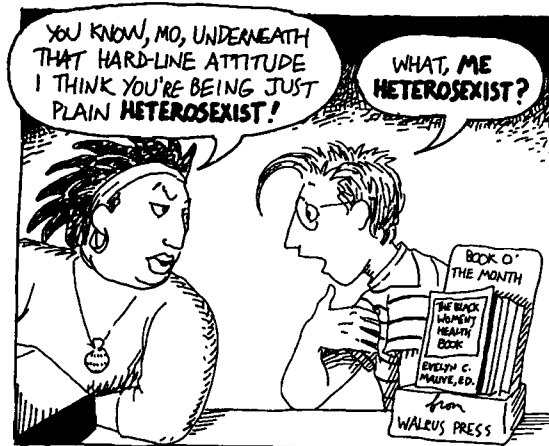
A Breach of Etiquette

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Pre-Nuptial DISAGREEMENT

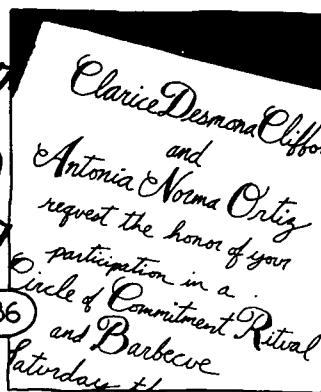
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Getting Committed

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THE BIG DAY HAS ARRIVED.



MEANWHILE, THE SITUATION BETWEEN MO AND HARRIET IS RAPIDLY DETERIORATING.



Altared States

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HAVING QUASHED THEIR LAST-MINUTE RELUCTANCE, OUR STARRY-EYED BRIDES NOW FIND THEMSELVES IN THE BACK YARD SURROUNDED BY A LOVING CIRCLE OF THEIR NEAREST AND DEAREST!

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THERE'S DRUMMING...

VARIOUS FRIENDS OFFER AFFIRMING TESTIMONY...

PERSONALLY, I CAN'T REALLY GET BEHIND THE MONOGAMY THING, BUT I WISH YOU LUCK. AND IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT, YOU BOTH HAVE MY NUMBER, RIGHT?

I JUST WANNA SAY I LOVE YOU BOTH LIKE SISTERS. MAYBE THAT'S WHY I GIVE YOU SO MUCH SHIT ABOUT BEING YUPPIE SELLOUTS AND WHY I SINCERELY HOPE THAT IN YOUR WEDDED BLISS YOU DON'T ABANDON THE STRUGGLE OF RADICAL LESBIANS OF COLOR AGAINST THE IMPERIALIST PATRIARCHY!

HOW SWEET, TANYA!

WELL I AM HARD PRESSED TO THINK OF A MORE RADICAL ACT THAN TWO COURAGEOUS WOMEN CHALLENGING THE POWERS THAT BE BY PUBLICLY CELEBRATING THEIR LESBIAN RELATIONSHIP. HERE'S TO YOUR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY!

THE VOWS HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY MEMORIZED...

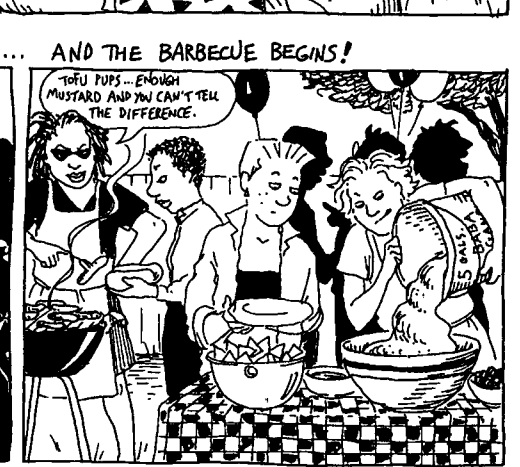
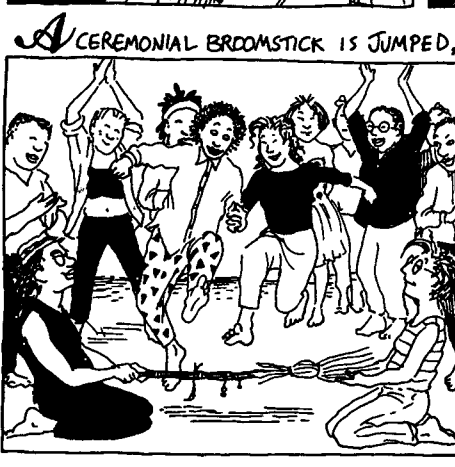
I, ANTONIA ORTIZ, CHOOSE YOU, CLARICE CLIFFORD, AS MY LIFE PARTNER, IN BODY AND SOUL. I PROMISE TO TRUST AND BE TRUSTWORTHY...

...TO GROW AND CHANGE WITH YOU, TO GIVE AND RECEIVE, TO SHARE OUR JOYS AND SORROWS, AND TO HONOR OUR DIFFERENCES.

BUT THE RING EXCHANGE IS EXTEMPORANEOUS.

...UM... I JUST LOVE YOU LIKE CRAZY... HERE.

SHIFF!



A CEREMONIAL BROOMSTICK IS JUMPED, THEIR FATES ARE SEALED WITH A KISS... AND THE BARBECUE BEGINS!

The Honey-mooners

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AFTER THE LAST REVELERS DEPART, OUR NEWLYWEDS UNPLUG THE PHONE AND RETIRE TO THEIR MATRIMONIAL FUTON IN SEARCH OF NEW HEIGHTS IN CONJUGAL RAPTURE.

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MEANWHILE... INSPIRED BY CLARICE & TONI'S ROMANTIC VOW OF COMMITMENT, MO & HARRIET ARE DETERMINED TO FAN THE FALTERING FLAMES OF THEIR OWN LACKLUSTER LOVE LIFE!

YOU HAD ONIONS ON YOUR TOFU PUP, DIDN'T YOU?

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. I'LL BRUSH MY TEETH AGAIN.



COULD WE, LIKE, SLOW DOWN? YOU ALWAYS GO RIGHT FOR MY BREASTS. HOW COME YOU NEVER KISS MY HANDS OR ANYTHING ANYMORE?

I COULD DROWN IN YOUR EYES! THE PUPILS ARE SO DILATED, THEY'RE COMPLETELY BLACK.

I CAN SEE YOUR AURA!

HEY, DIDJA KNOW YOU HAVE A ZIT ON YOUR SHOULDER?



NOW WHAT? WHY'D YOU STOP?

MY ARM IS FALLING ASLEEP, OKAY? GIMME A BREAK!

LATER... THAT WAS UNBELIEVABLE! I FELT LIKE I WAS IN A TRANCE, IT WAS SO INTENSE.

YEAH, WOW. AURAS AND PSYCHIC VISIONS AND SIMULTANEOUS ORGASMS... WE SHOULD GET MARRIED EVERY WEEK.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO HOME.

FEELINGS

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THE SOLUTION

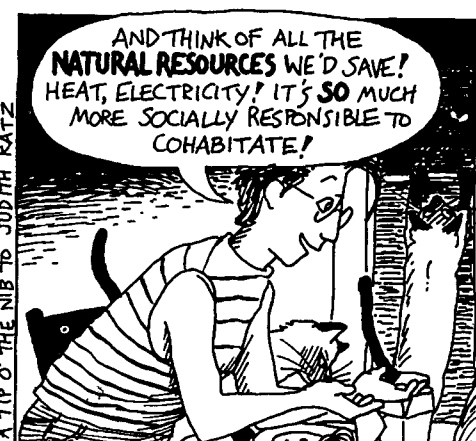
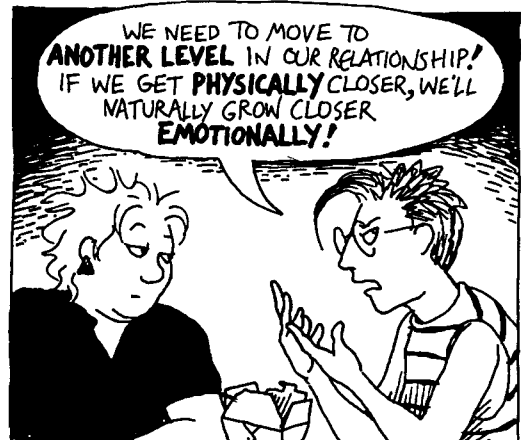
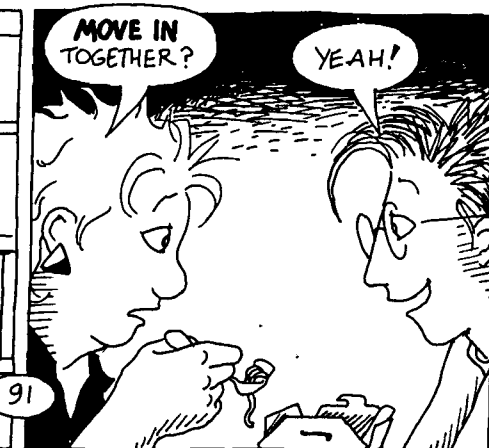
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A MOVING PROPOSITION

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CRISIS management

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MO HAS DROPPED IN ON HER PALS FOR A HIT OF NETWORK NEWS...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS COUNTRY! WE'RE ON THE BRINK OF WORLD WAR III JUST SO WE CAN KEEP DRIVING OUR BIG FUCKING CARS TO THE BIG FUCKING MALL!

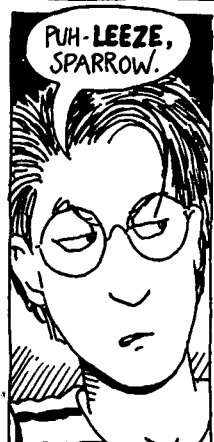
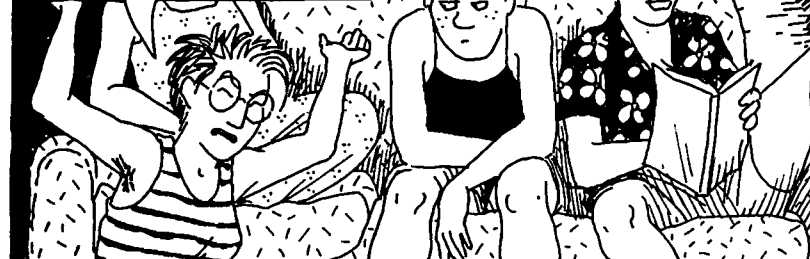
...AND SO BUSH AND HIS BLOODTHIRSTY BUDDIES IN THE DEFENSE BIZ CAN PLAY 'WHOSE IS BIGGER' IN THE PERSIAN GULF, AND PROVE THAT WE NEED EVEN MORE MONEY FOR MILITARY SPENDING!



I JUST DON'T GET IT! INSTEAD OF EXPLORING ENVIRONMENTALLY-SOUND ENERGY SOURCES, OR RAISING OUR PATHETIC FUEL-EFFICIENCY STANDARDS, WE'RE PREPARED TO KILL FOR THE LAST DROP OF OIL ON THE PLANET! IT'S INSANE

JUST WAIT. NEXT THEY'LL START DRILLING UP THE WILDLIFE REFUGES.

IT'S TYPICAL ADDICTED BEHAVIOR. WE'RE A NATION OF OIL JUNKIES, TOTALLY SELF-DESTRUCTIVE AND WILLING TO DO ANYTHING FOR A FIX. WE'RE LIKE A HUGE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY. IF YOU ASK ME, WHAT THIS COUNTRY NEEDS IS A GOOD 12-STEP PROGRAM!

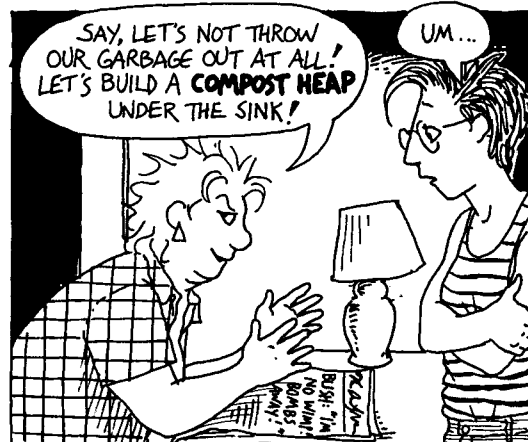
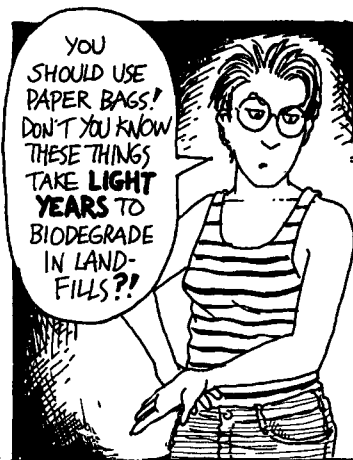


FIGHTIN' WORDS

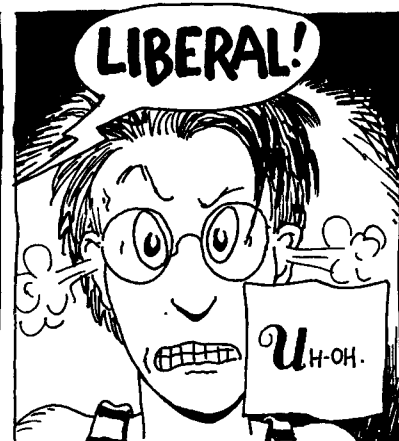
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MO'S BEEN STRANGELY PEEVISH EVER SINCE SHE PROPOSED COHABITATION TO HARRIET...



THUS TAUNTED, HARRIET, LIKE A SKILLED MARTIAL ARTIST, DEFTLY HONES IN ON HER OPPONENT'S WEAKEST POINT...

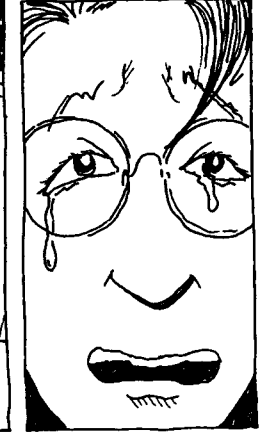
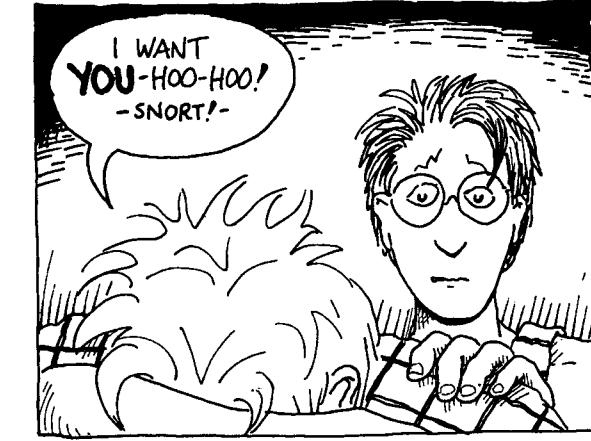
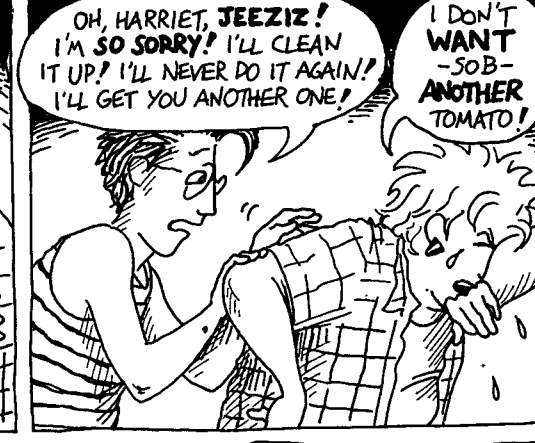
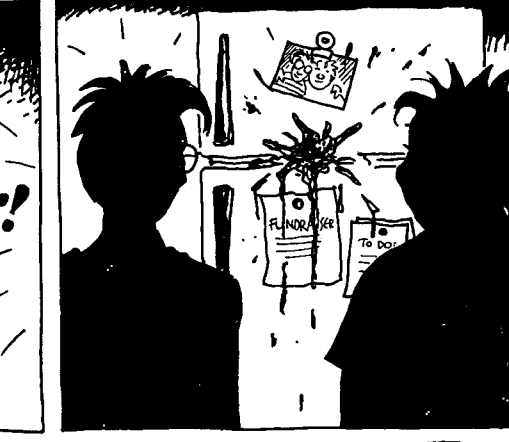
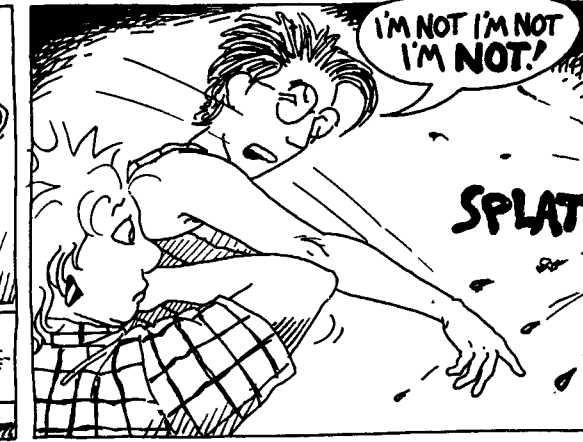
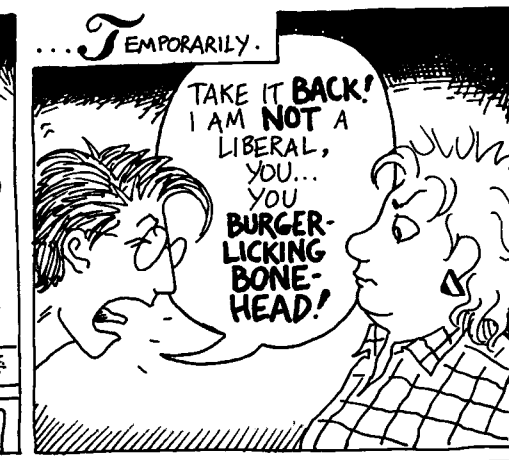


THE CLOUD-BURST

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HARRIET'S CRUEL EPITHET HAS RENDERED MO SPEECHLESS...



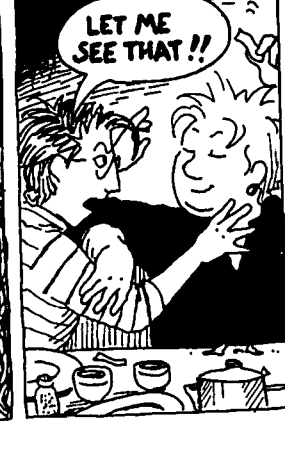
WILL OUR LACHRYMOSE HEROINES MANAGE TO OVERCOME THIS SOGGY STATE OF AFFAIRS? GODDESS KNOWS...UNTIL OUR NEXT POIGNANT EPISODE!

Outrageous Fortune

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FOLLOWING THEIR FIERCE FEUD AND SUBSEQUENT SOB SESSION, OUR COURAGEOUS COUPLE SEEMS MORE DETERMINED THAN EVER TO ENTER INTO THAT RAPTUREOUS CONDITION KNOWN AS DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP!

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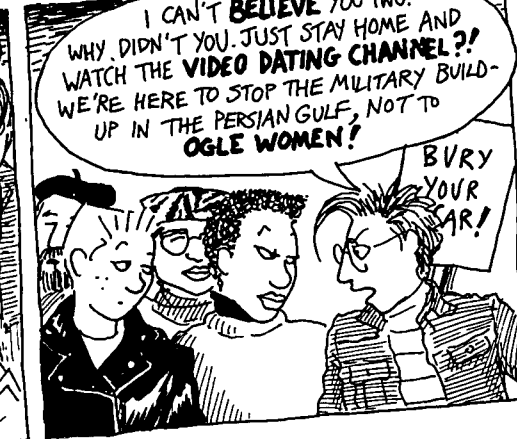
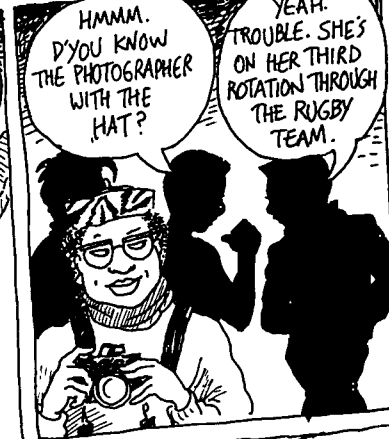
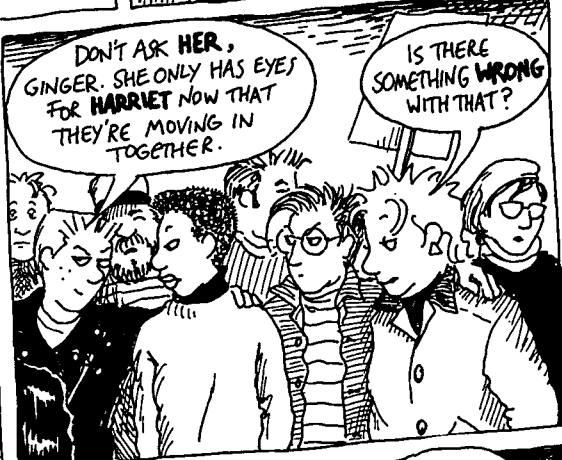


Dancing in the Streets

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96

A CRISP AUTUMN AFTERNOON FINDS OUR HEROINES OUTDOORS, VIGOROUSLY EXERCISING THEIR FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS.



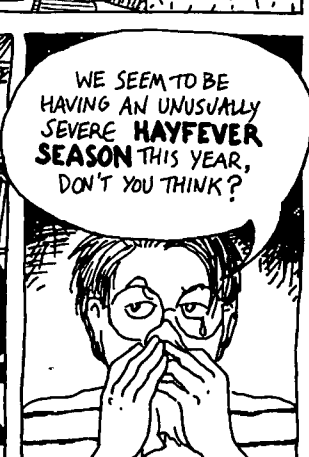
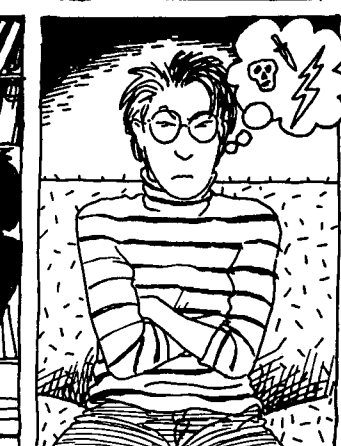
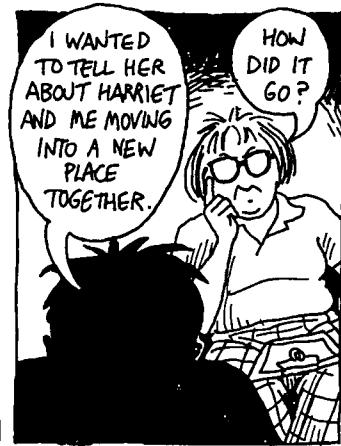
A TIP O' THE NIB TO EMMA GOLDMAN

Emotional Allergy

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ONCE AGAIN, WE FIND OUR HEROINE UPON THE SACRIFICIAL SOFA, FACE TO FACE WITH HER DARKEST FEARS AND DEAREST HOPES.

97



the Zealot

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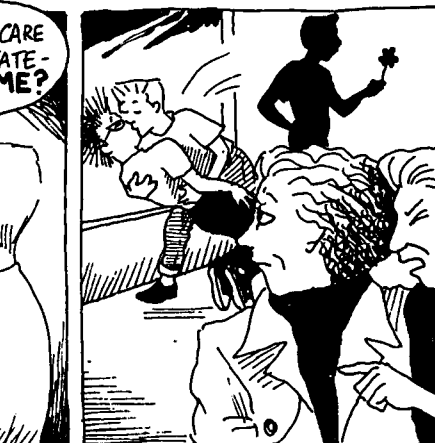


MALL MANIA

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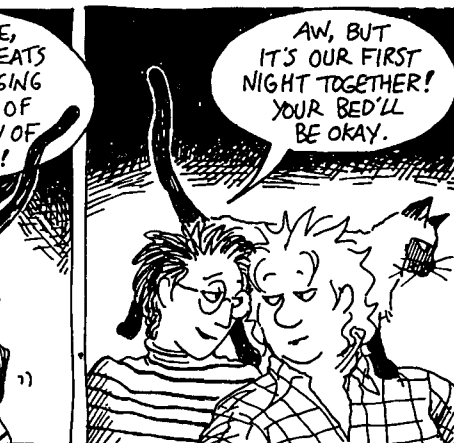
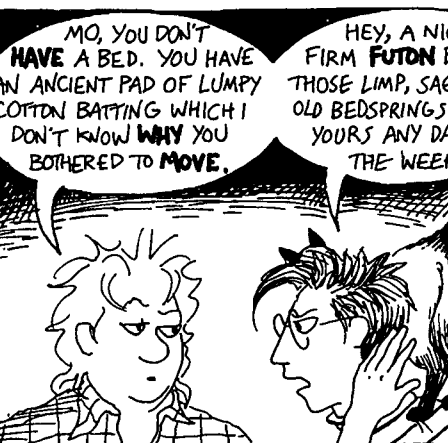
LOIS AND HER QUEER NATION CRONIES HAVE DESCENDED ON A LOCAL MALL... AND THEY'RE NOT GOING SHOPPING!

99



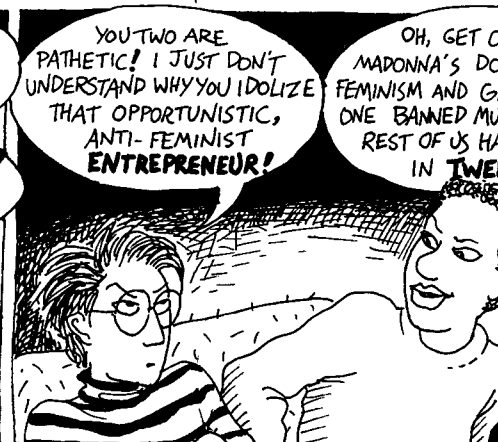
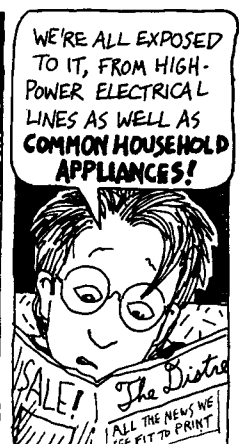
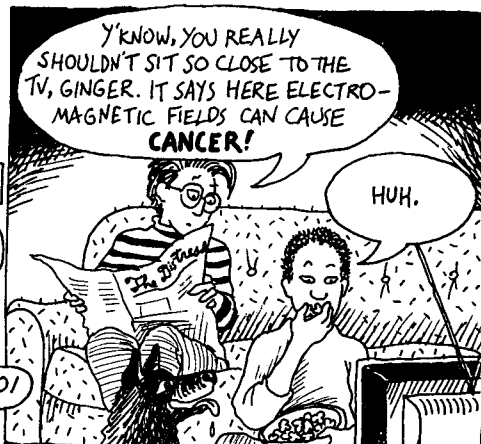
Ménage à Deux

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MATERIAL WOMAN?

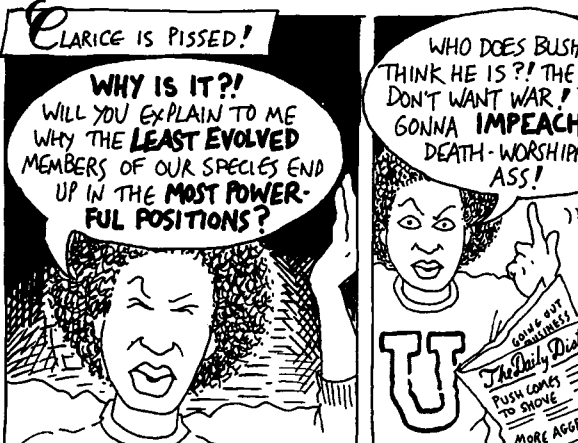
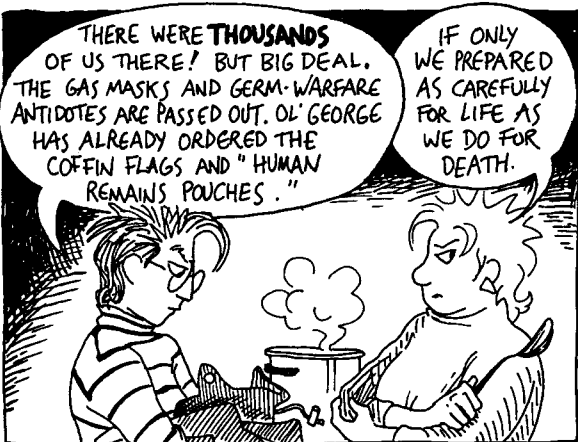
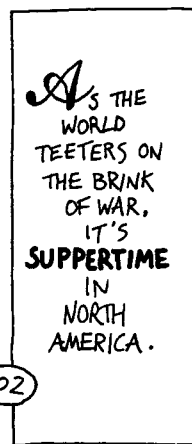
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STUDY WAR FER SURE

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GULF BALL

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ON THE HOME FRONT...

WHAT AN INTERCEPTION, STEVE!

YES SIR, THERE SURE IS SOME BUTT GETTING KICKED OUT ON THE FIELD TODAY!

STILL, THE SCORE IS SURPRISINGLY CLOSE!

WELL, WE HAVEN'T SEEN THE REAL HEAVY ARTILLERY YET, TED.

103



I WISH IT WAS THE SUPER BOWL.

WE'LL BE BACK WITH MORE EXCITING DESCRIPTIONS OF MISSILES, PAYLOADS, AND EXPLOSIONS AFTER THIS WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR, GENERAL ELECTRIC.

MEANWHILE, OUT ON THE STREETS...

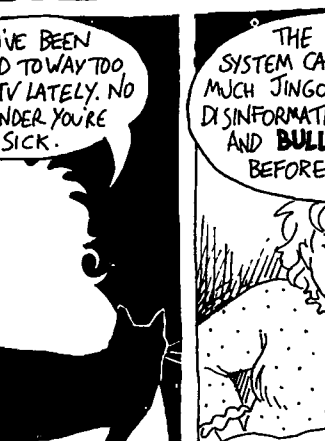
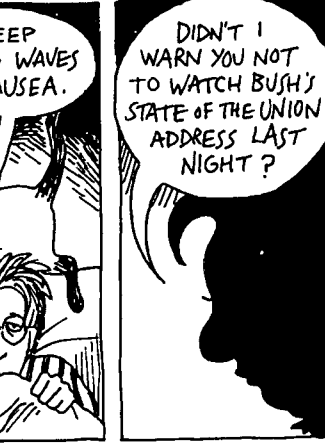
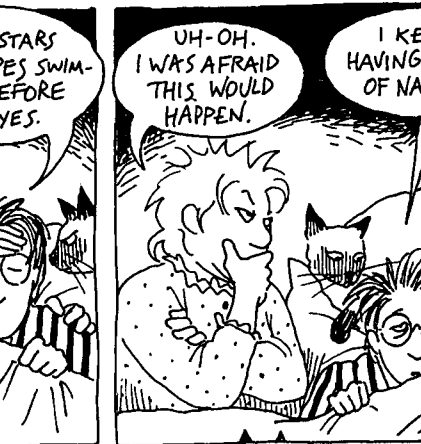
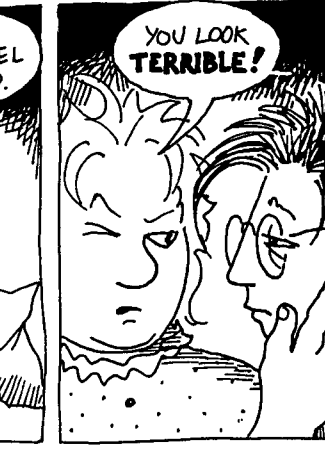
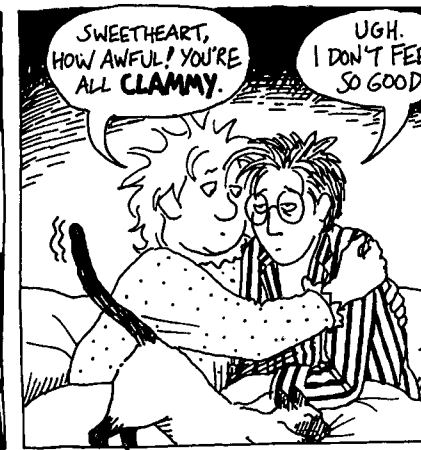


TOXIC SHOCK

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104

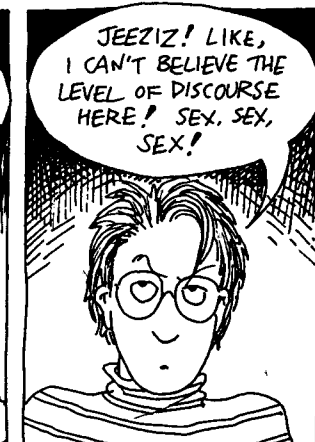
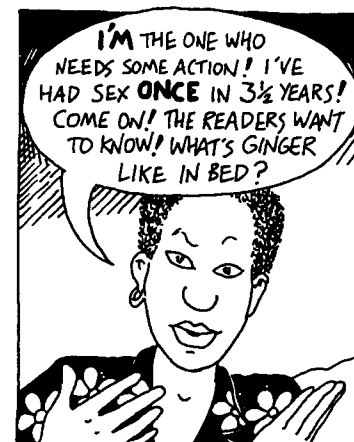
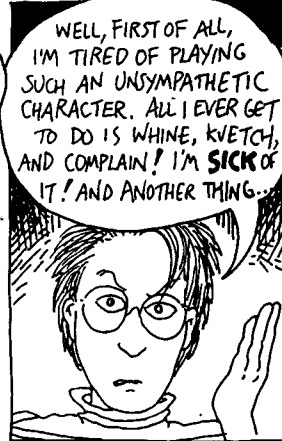
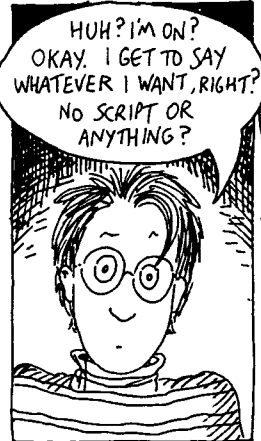
AAAAHH!



Union Maids

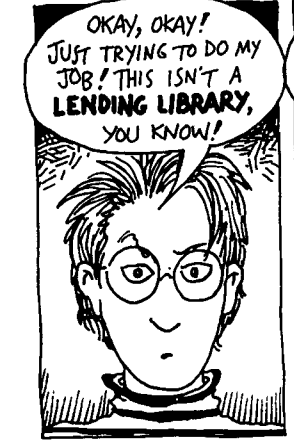
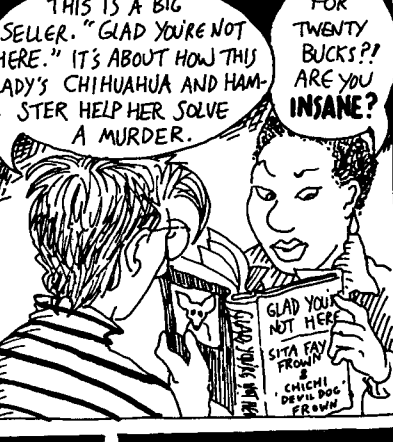
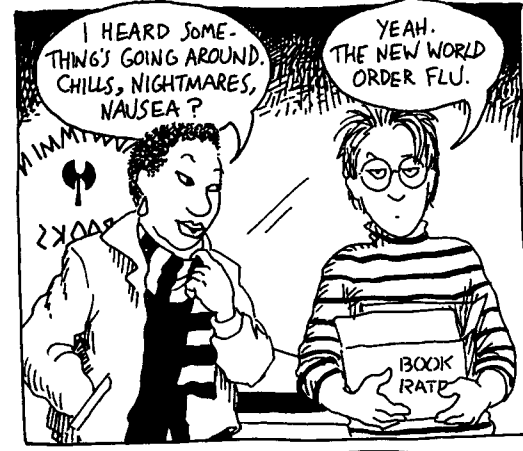
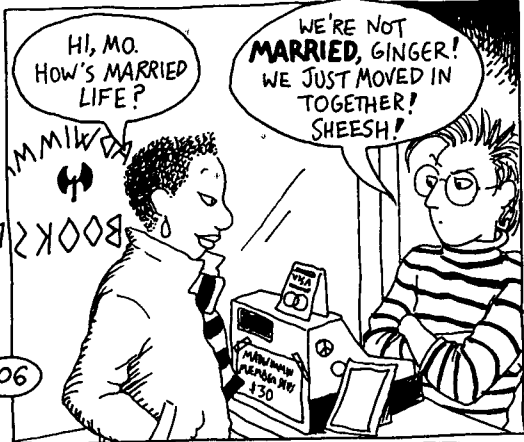
105

IN CONCESSION TO RECENT DEMANDS MADE BY LOCAL 428 OF THE FEDERATED SISTERHOOD OF LESBIAN COMIC STRIP CHARACTERS, MANAGEMENT HAS AGREED TO DEVOTE THIS WEEK'S SPACE TO A **PROCESSING SESSION** WITH THE RANK AND FILE.



ESCAPE from PLANET HELL

106

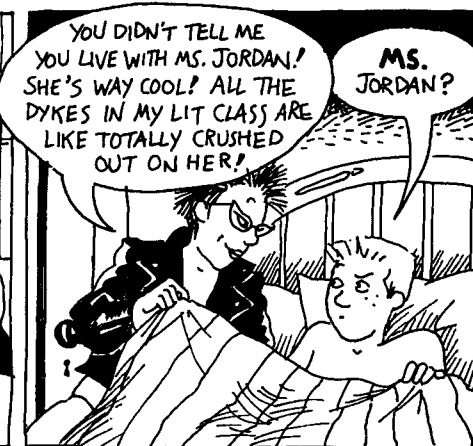
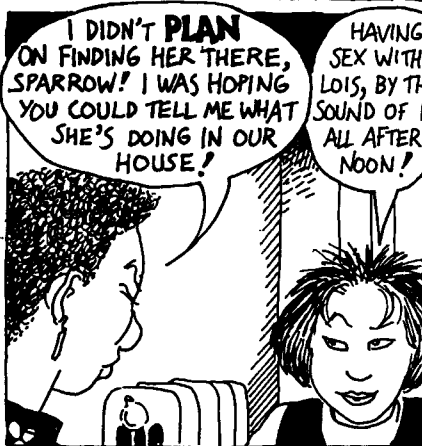
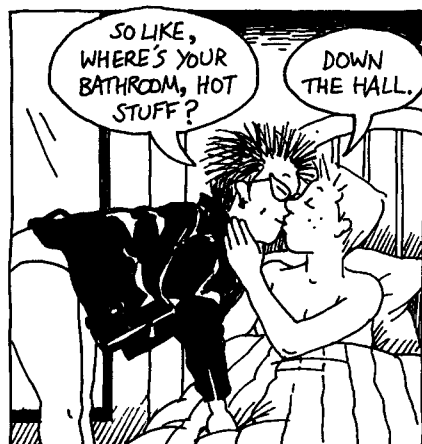


Brief Encounter

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T
IRED OF
PLAYING ODD
GIRL OUT WITH
EMMA AND
DOROTHY, LOIS
ATTEMPTS TO
DISTRACT
HERSELF WITH
AN ADMIRER
FROM HER
QUEER NATION
FOCUS GROUP.

107



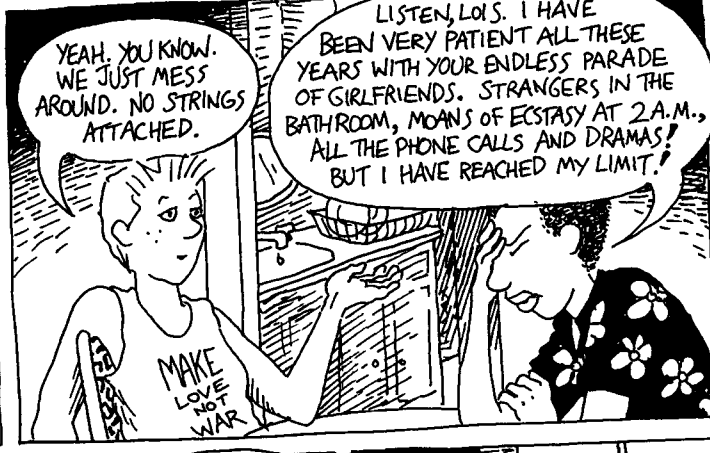
A TIP © THE NIB TO JOAN BENSON?

ARMY OF LOVERS

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108

T
HE
PREMENSTRUAL
TENSION
HAS
REACHED
FEVER
PITCH
AT
GINGER'S
HOUSE!



Creative Visualization

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109

IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT AND GINGER IS BEWEEPING HER OUTCAST STATE!

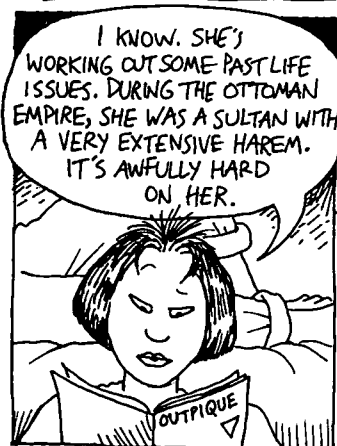


MAYBE I EXPECT TOO MUCH. MAYBE MY STANDARDS ARE JUST TOO HIGH.

WHAT ARE YOUR STANDARDS? HAVE YOU VISUALIZED YOUR IDEAL LOVER? THAT'S WHAT MY PSYCHIC ADVISES.



WHO, SHEILA? SHE GOES THROUGH A DIFFERENT GIRLFRIEND EVERY MONTH!



I KNOW. SHE'S WORKING OUT SOME PAST LIFE ISSUES. DURING THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, SHE WAS A SULTAN WITH A VERY EXTENSIVE HAREM. IT'S AWFULLY HARD ON HER.



PLEASE.

I STILL THINK VISUALIZATION IS A GOOD TECHNIQUE. YOU'RE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO FIND SOMETHING IF YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.



I DUNNO.

IT SEEMS TO ME THE MORE SPECIFIC YOU ARE ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT, THE MORE LIKELY IT IS YOU'LL GET THE TOTAL OPPOSITE.



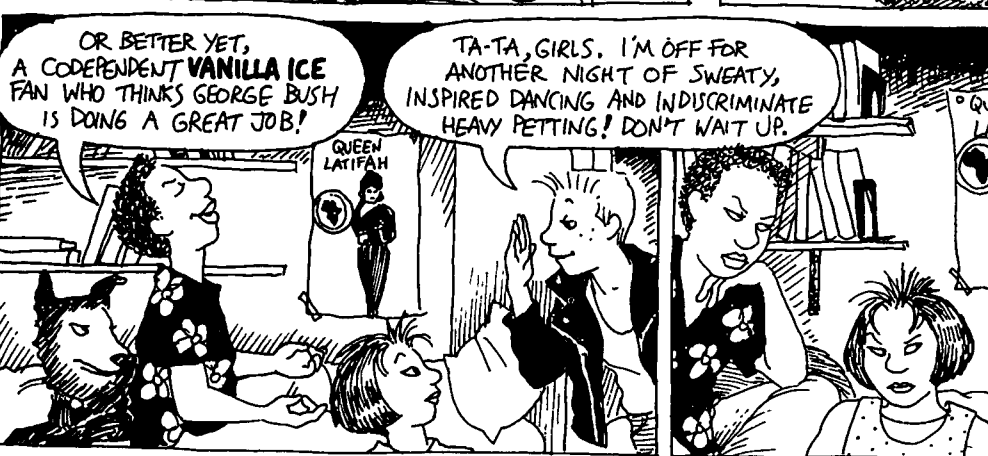
COME TO THINK OF IT, SHEILA KEEPS VISUALIZING A SOBER, SPIRITUAL BODYWORKER AND HER LAST FIVE GIRLFRIENDS HAVE BEEN POT-SMOKING COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS.

HMM. DO YOU THINK IF I VISUALIZE WHAT I DON'T WANT, THEN MY DREAM WOMAN WILL COME TO ME?



I DUNNO. IT COULD BE RISKY. VISUALIZATION'S PRETTY POWERFUL STUFF.

YEAH! HOW ABOUT A DOG-HATING CHAIN-SMOKER WITH LOTS OF INTIMACY ISSUES?



OR BETTER YET, A CODEPENDENT VANILLA ICE FAN WHO THINKS GEORGE BUSH IS DOING A GREAT JOB?

TA-TA, GIRLS. I'M OFF FOR ANOTHER NIGHT OF SWEATY, INSPIRED DANCING AND INDISCRIMINATE HEAVY PETTING! DON'T WAIT UP.



LET'S PUT SUPERGLUE IN HER PERSONAL LUBRICANT DISPENSER.

I CAN VISUALIZE THAT.

LIFE FORCE

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110

AS THE AMERICAN EMPIRE CONTINUES ITS INEXORABLE DECLINE BEHIND A FACADE OF YELLOW-BERIBBONED DENIAL, OUR PATIENT HEROINES CONTINUE, IN THEIR OWN INEXORABLE WAY, TO NOURISH THE VITAL SPARK.

Mo and Harriet are getting down and dirty.



ISN'T THIS GREAT, HARRIET? JOINING WITH OUR NEIGHBORS TO FIGHT CITY HALL AND CLAIM THIS VACANT LOT FOR THE PEOPLE!



COUNTERACTING THE FEAR AND ALIENATION OF URBAN LIFE AS WE COME TOGETHER IN ALL OUR GRAND CULTURAL DIVERSITY TO TILL THE SOIL!



WORKING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE! RENEWING, IN OUR SMALL WAY, THE PLANET'S DAMAGED ECOSYSTEMS! LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY!

I'M GONNA PUT THE PEAS HERE. COULD YOU PICK THE ROCKS OUT?



JEEZ, HARRIET! I CAN'T STAND GETTING DIRT UNDER MY FINGERNAILS. DO WE HAVE ANY GLOVES?

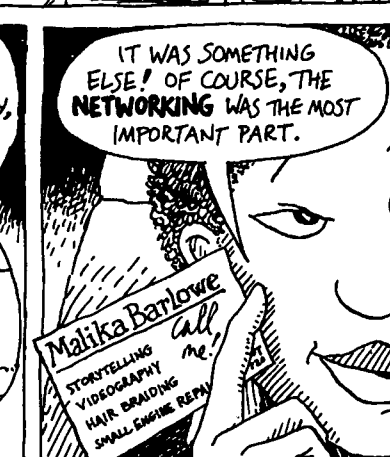


GINGER IS GIDDY WITH NEW AGENDAS. NO, I WAS JUST VISITING ATLANTA FOR THE NATIONAL LESBIAN CONFERENCE.

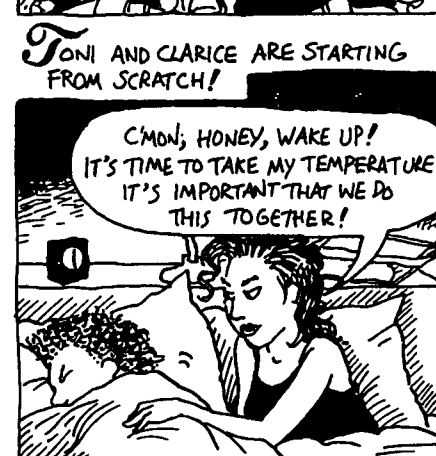


'NICE' IS NOT THE WORD I'D CHOOSE. GLORIOUS CHAOS IS MORE LIKE IT. CAN YOU IMAGINE 3,000 LESBIANS FROM NEARLY EVERY WAY OF LIFE HOLDING PLEASURY SESSIONS IN THE CIVIC CENTER WHILE MERCURY IS IN RETROGRADE?

UM... NO, FRANKLY, I CAN'T.



IT WAS SOMETHING ELSE! OF COURSE, THE NETWORKING WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART.



TONI AND CLARICE ARE STARTING FROM SCRATCH!



HUH? OH, RIGHT. OKAY, WHAT DO I DO?

YOU WRITE IT DOWN ON THIS CHART WHEN I'M DONE.



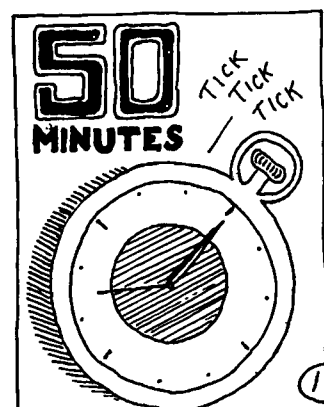
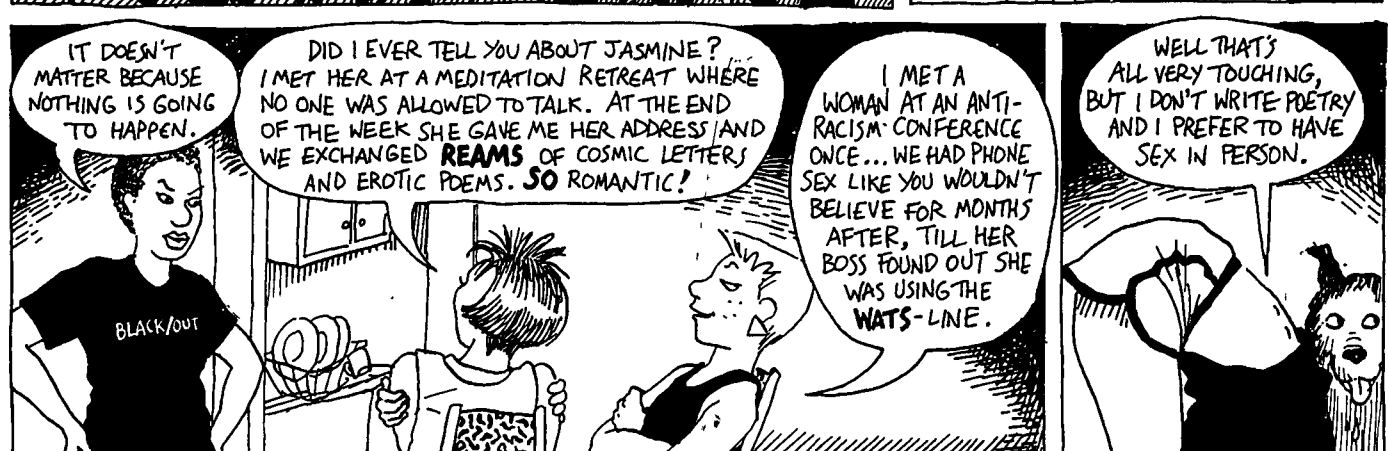
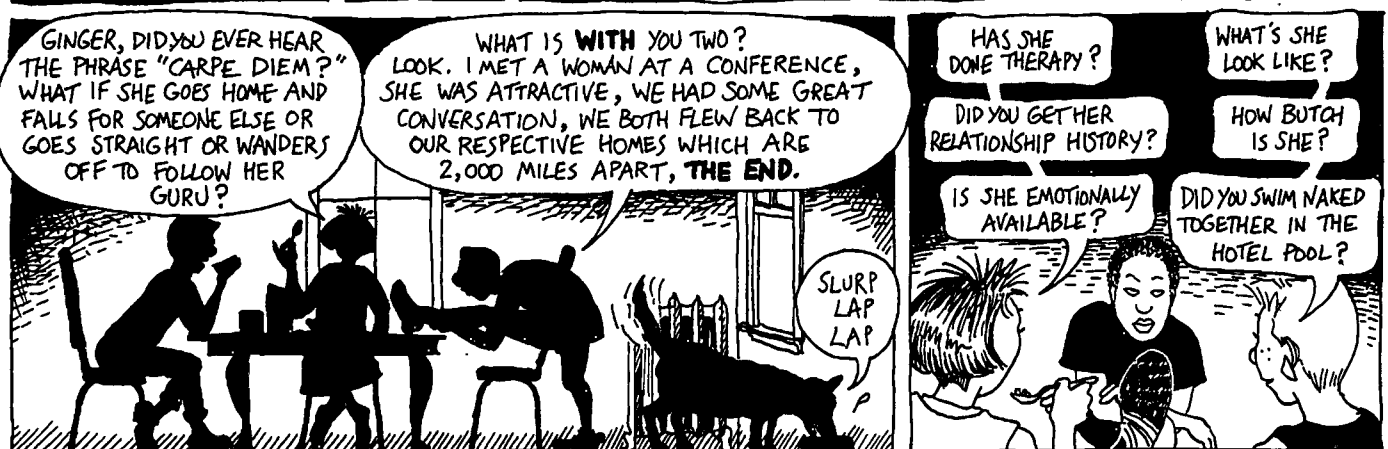
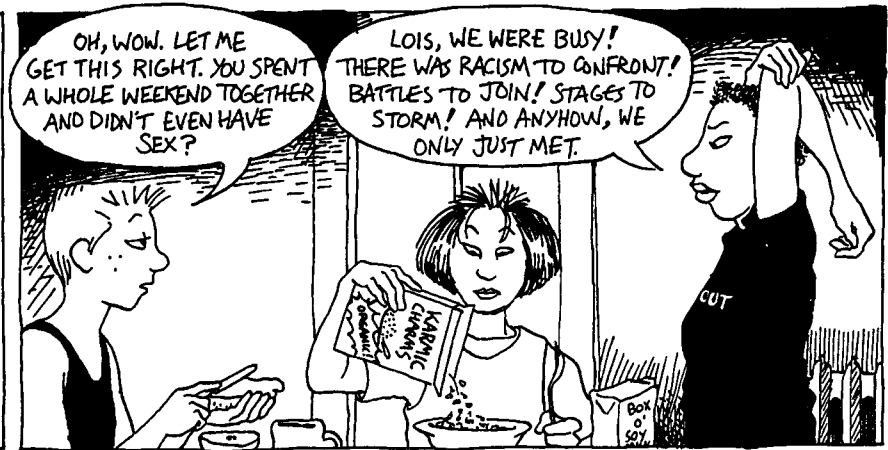
OKAY. ZNNNK!

CLAR-EECE!

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

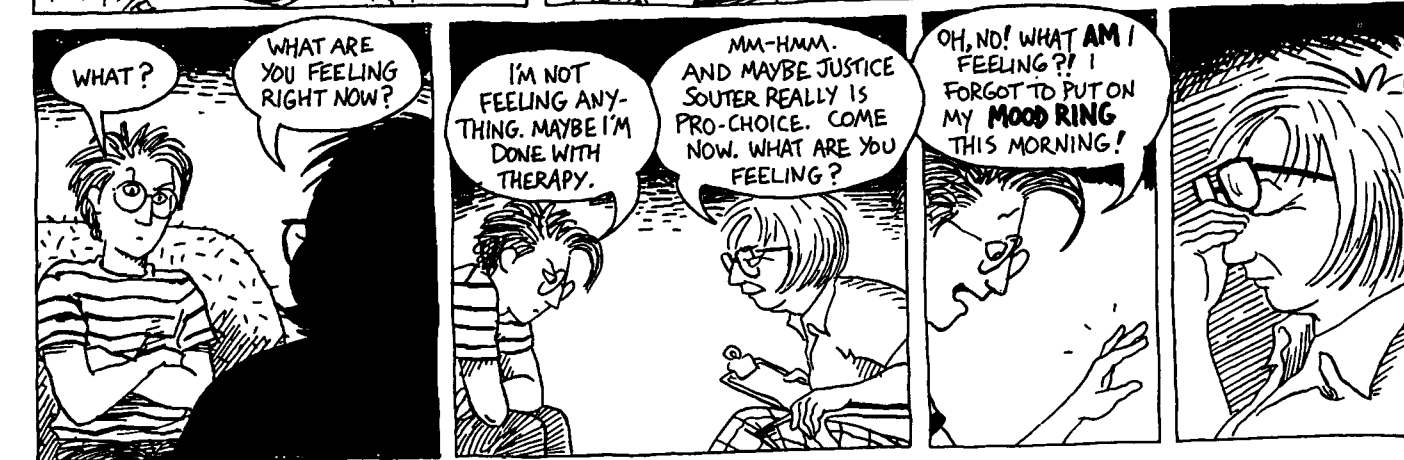
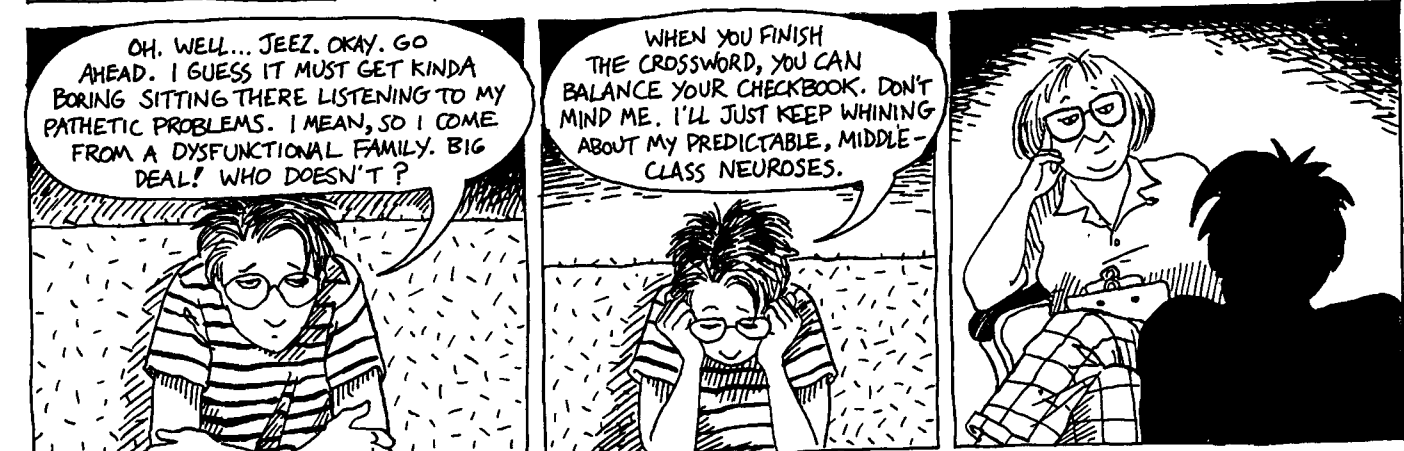
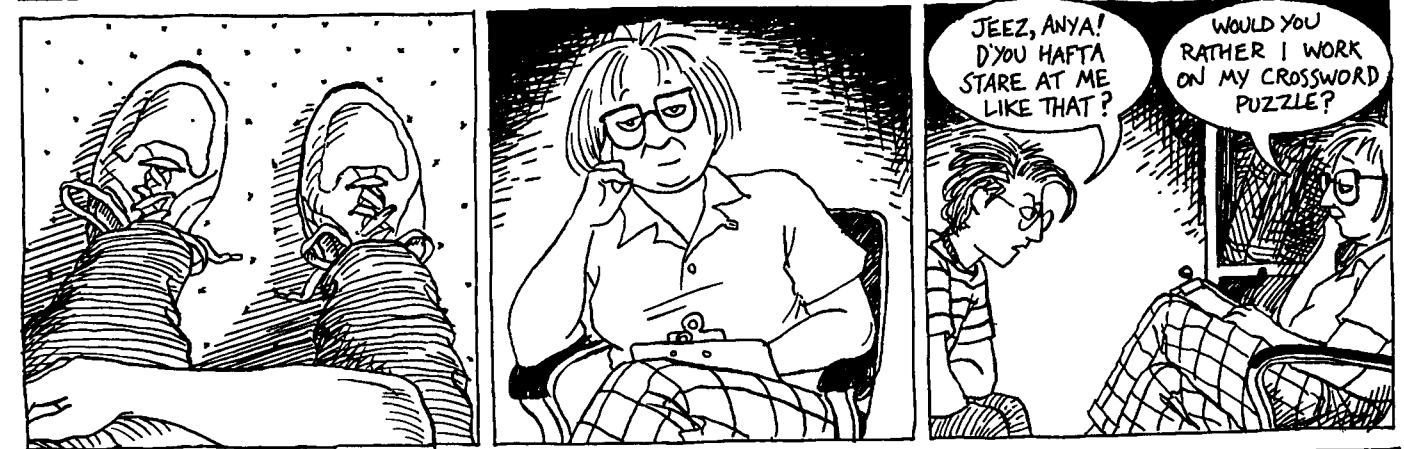
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GINGER HAS CONFESSED TO INDULGING IN FLIRTATIOUS BEHAVIOR AT THE NATIONAL LESBIAN CONFERENCE.



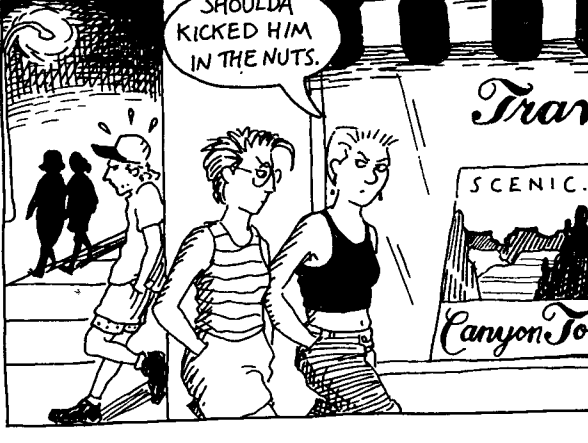
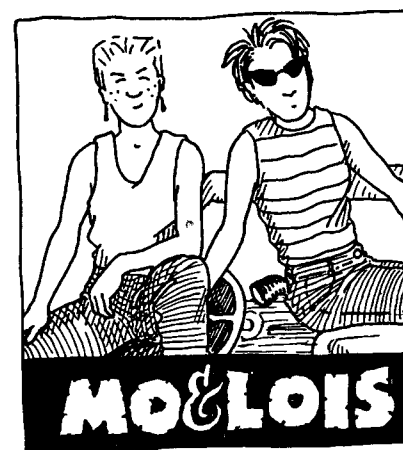
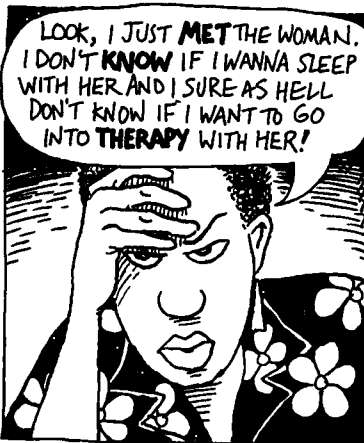
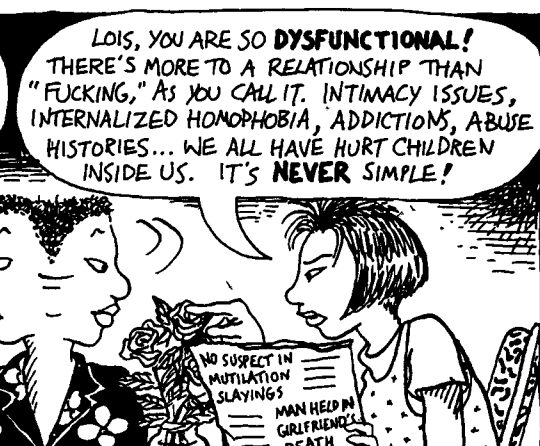
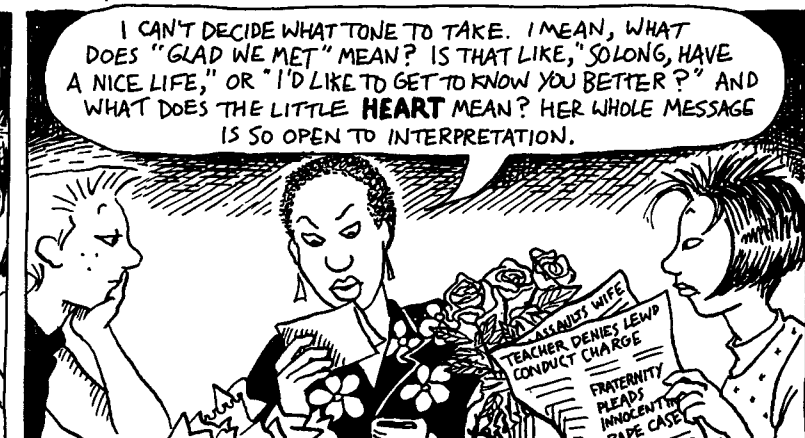
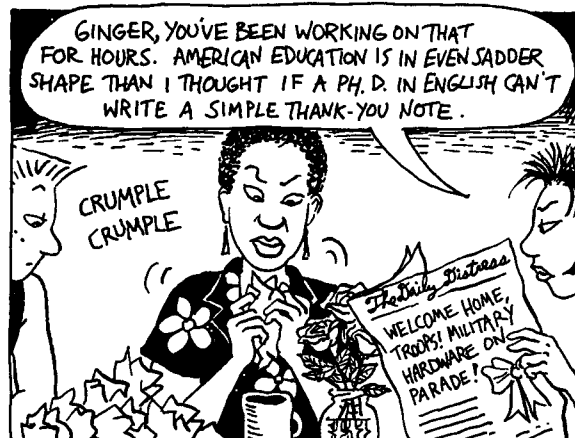
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IT'S THAT TIME OF THE WEEK AGAIN!



Support Group

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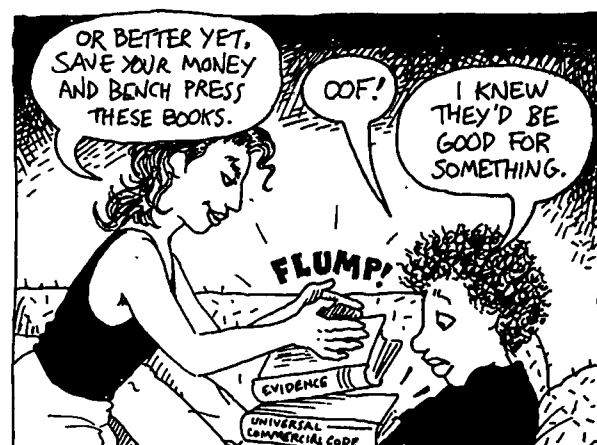
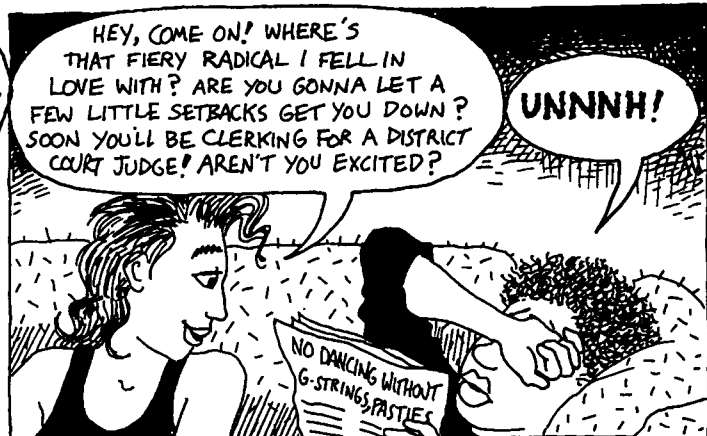


Clarice Clifford and the Supremes

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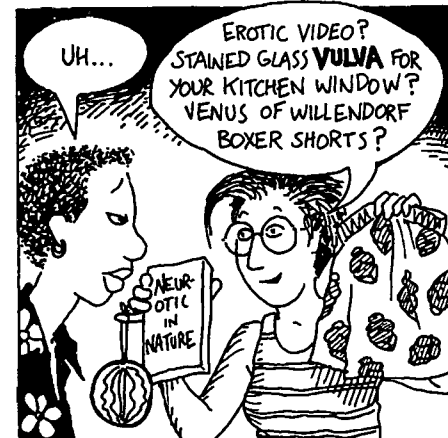
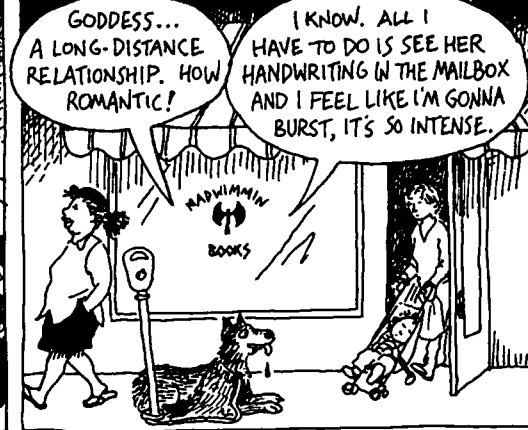
HAVING AT LONG LAST GRADUATED FROM LAW SCHOOL, OUR FRIEND CLARICE IS PREPARING ASSIDUOUSLY FOR THE BAR EXAM.

115



the MARKET PLACE

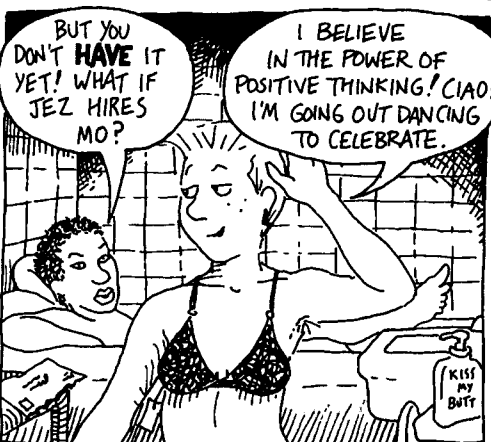
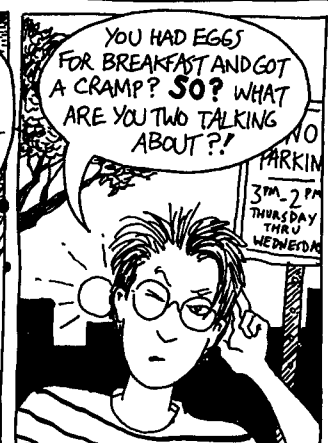
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ANTI-CLIPATION

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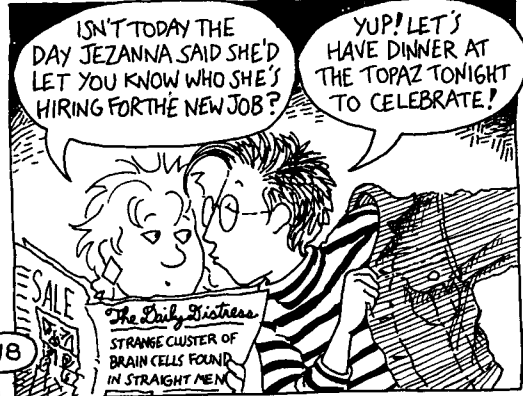
ONE EVENING AT THE LOCAL CO-OP...



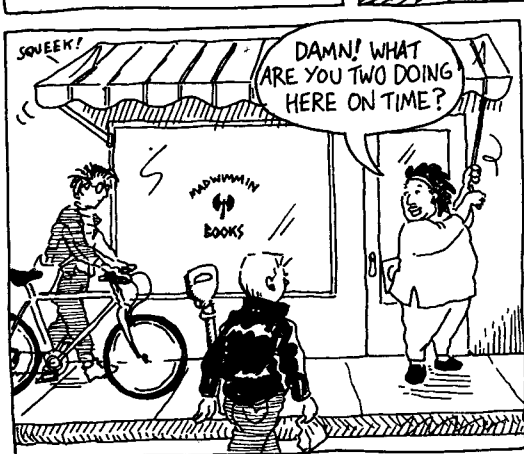
The Blow

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IT'S MONDAY MORNING AT MO'S HOUSE,



AND AT LOIS'S TOO...



Yup-ward Bound

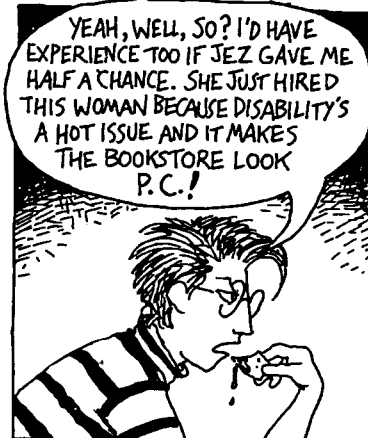
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I STAND BACK! MO'S IN A MOOD!



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! I'VE GIVEN MADWIMMIN BOOKS YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE. I'D'VE BEEN PERFECT FOR THAT JOB AND JEZANNA GOES AND HIRES THIS DISABLED WOMAN OUTTA THE BLUE.

WHAT'S BEING DISABLED HAVE TO DO WITH IT? I THOUGHT YOU SAID THEA HAD LOTS OF EXPERIENCE AT ANOTHER STORE.



YEAH, WELL, SO? I'D HAVE EXPERIENCE TOO IF JEZ GAVE ME HALF A CHANCE. SHE JUST HIRED THIS WOMAN BECAUSE DISABILITY'S A HOT ISSUE AND IT MAKES THE BOOKSTORE LOOK P.C.!



MO, LISTEN TO YOU! YOU SOUND LIKE THOSE WHITE MEN WHO WHINE ABOUT AFFIRMATIVE ACTION! YOU'RE JUST PISSED 'CAUSE YOU DIDN'T GET THE JOB!



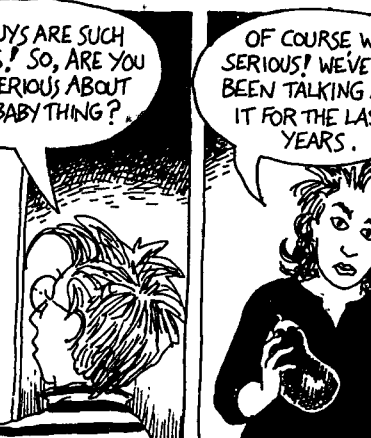
YEAH, EASY FOR YOU TO SAY WITH YOUR FANCY NEW GIG. SO, IS THAT HOW CLERKS FOR JUDGES HAFTA DRESS?



YEAH. IT'S GONNA TAKE SOME GETTING USED TO.



I JUST LOVE A BUTCH IN A SKIRT.



YOU GUYS ARE SUCH YUPPIES! SO, ARE YOU STILL SERIOUS ABOUT THAT BABY THING?



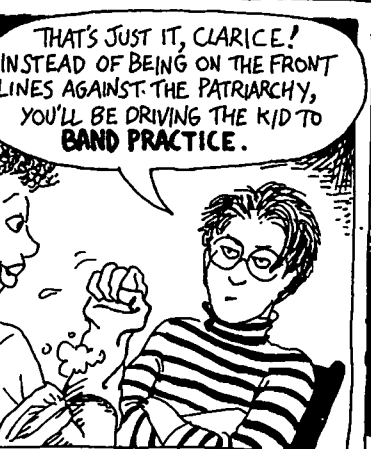
OF COURSE WE'RE SERIOUS! WE'VE ONLY BEEN TALKING ABOUT IT FOR THE LAST 3 YEARS.



BUT DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO? WHY NOT LEAVE BREEDING TO THE HETS? A LESBIAN'S JOB IS TO CHANGE THE WORLD, NOT DIAPERS.



LISTEN, LESBIANS HAVING BABIES IS GONNA CHANGE THE WORLD! THE P.T.A. WILL NEVER BE THE SAME!



THAT'S JUST IT, CLARICE! INSTEAD OF BEING ON THE FRONT LINES AGAINST THE PATRIARCHY, YOU'LL BE DRIVING THE KID TO BAND PRACTICE.



THINK OF IT AS INFILTRATION. YOU WORK THE FRONT LINES. WE'LL SLIP INSIDE AND CHANGETHINGS RIGHT UNDER THEIR NOSES.



IF THEY DON'T CHANGE YOU FIRST.

JADE

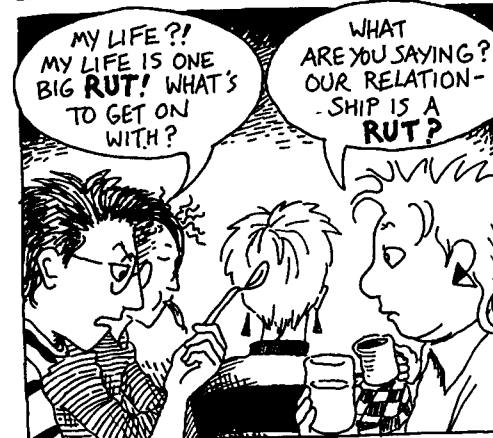
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WE FIND OUR HAPLESS HEROINE SULKILY SLURPING SWEET & SOUR SOYBEAN SUCCOTASH AT HER FAVORITE SAPPHIC SUPPER SPOT.



HON, YOU'VE GOTTA LET GO! JEZANNA HIRED SOMEONE ELSE FOR THE JOB. NOW GET ON WITH YOUR LIFE!



MY LIFE?! MY LIFE IS ONE BIG RUT! WHAT'S TO GET ON WITH?



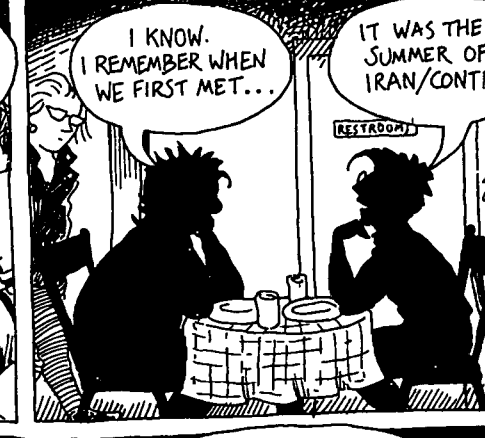
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? OUR RELATIONSHIP IS A RUT?



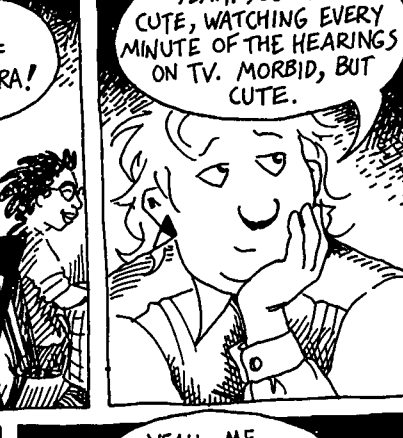
NO, SWEETIE! I DIDN'T MEAN THAT! WE'RE NOT IN A RUT, WE'RE JUST... SETTLED. YOU KNOW... STABLE.



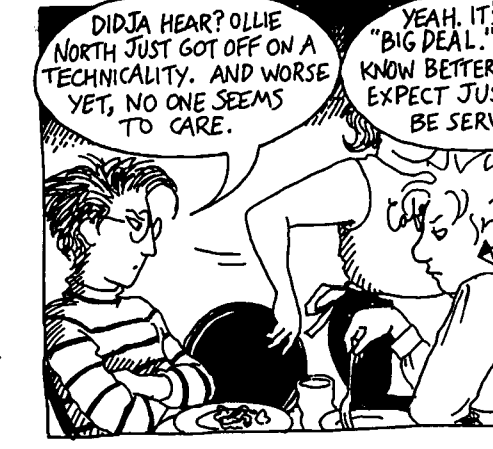
MO, PLEASE! I'M NOT UP TO ONE OF YOUR PANICS RIGHT NOW.



YOU USED TO THINK I WAS ADORABLE WHEN I PANICKED.



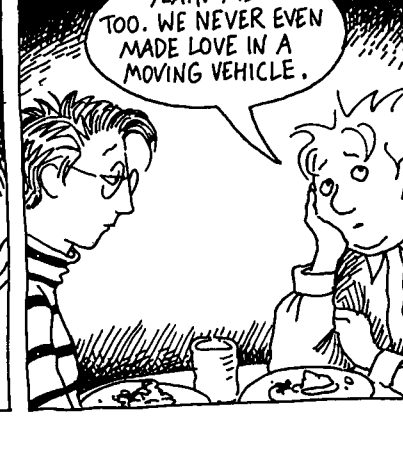
I KNOW. I REMEMBER WHEN WE FIRST MET... IT WAS THE SUMMER OF IRAN/CONTRA!



DIDJA HEAR? OLLIE NORTH JUST GOT OFF ON A TECHNICALITY. AND WORSE YET, NO ONE SEEMS TO CARE.



YEAH. IT'S LIKE, "BIG DEAL." WE ALL KNOW BETTER THAN TO EXPECT JUSTICE TO BE SERVED.

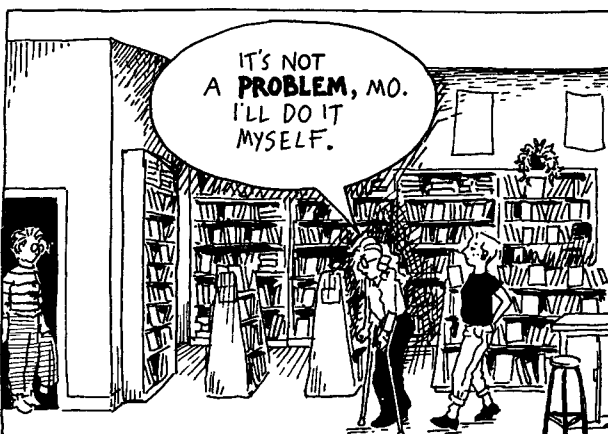
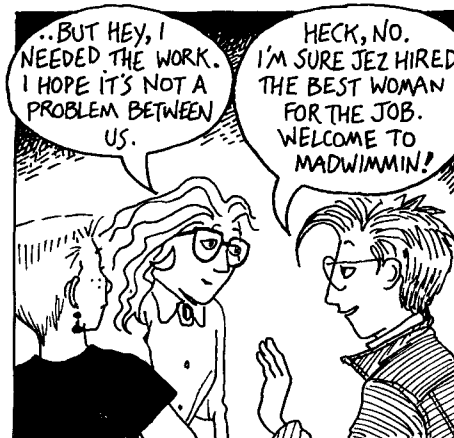
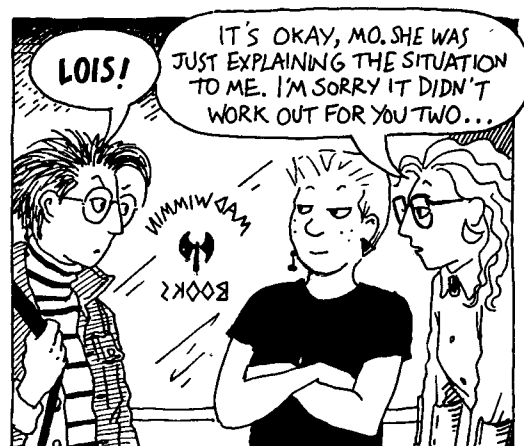
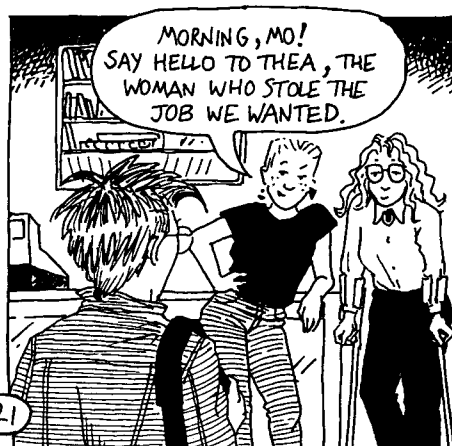


WHERE DID IT ALL GO WRONG, HARRIET? THINGS SEEMED SO HOPEFUL AND EXCITING FOUR YEARS AGO. I REALLY THOUGHT IT WOULD TURN OUT DIFFERENTLY!

TURF TIFT

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LONG DONG JUSTICE

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OUR GALS AT MADWIMMIN BOOKS ARE REELING WITH POST-THOMAS CONFIRMATION STUPEFACTION!

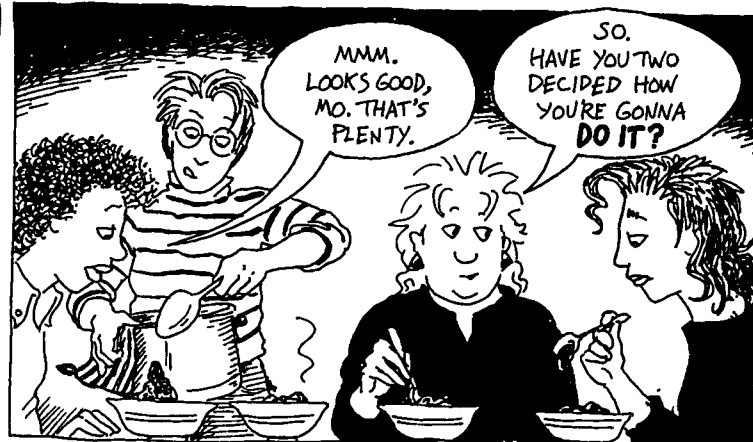


A Pregnant Moment

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MO AND HARRIET HAVE PREPARED A ROBUST LENTIL STEW FOR THEIR DINNER GUESTS.

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MMM. LOOKS GOOD, MO. THAT'S PLENTY.

SO, HAVE YOU TWO DECIDED HOW YOU'RE GONNA DO IT?

YEAH. WE'RE PRETTY MUCH DETERMINED ON AN UNKNOWN AFRICAN-AMERICAN DONOR WHO WE'D GET THROUGH A SPERM BANK.

WHAT? WHAT HAPPENED TO THE KNOWN LATINO DONOR WITH A LIMITED PARENTING ROLE? ANA'S BROTHER IS INTERESTED! HE'S A GREAT GUY!

TONI, WE ALREADY WENT THROUGH THIS!

YEAH, AND WE DECIDED IT WOULD BE BEST FOR THE BABY TO HAVE A FATHER!



NO! WE DECIDED THE LEGAL RISKS WERE TOO GREAT AND IT WAS SAFEST TO GO WITH ANONYMOUS SPERM!

WELL, I KNOW WE DECIDED ON A LATINO DONOR. THE KID'S GONNA HAVE A HARD ENOUGH TIME WITH AN INTERRACIAL LESBIAN COUPLE FOR PARENTS, LET ALONE BEING MIXED-RACE HERSELF.

OR HIMSELF.

OH, NOW YOU WANT A BOY? CLARICE, WE AGREED TO TRY FOR A GIRL!



WELL, YEAH. BUT BOYS ARE MUCH MORE LIKELY WITH A.I. I JUST MEANT EITHER WOULD BE FINE.

NICE TO SEE YOU'VE WORKED OUT ALL THE FINE POINTS.

MUST WE DISCUSS INSEMINATION AT THE DINNER TABLE? YOU TWO ARE STARTING TO SPEAK ANOTHER LANGUAGE!

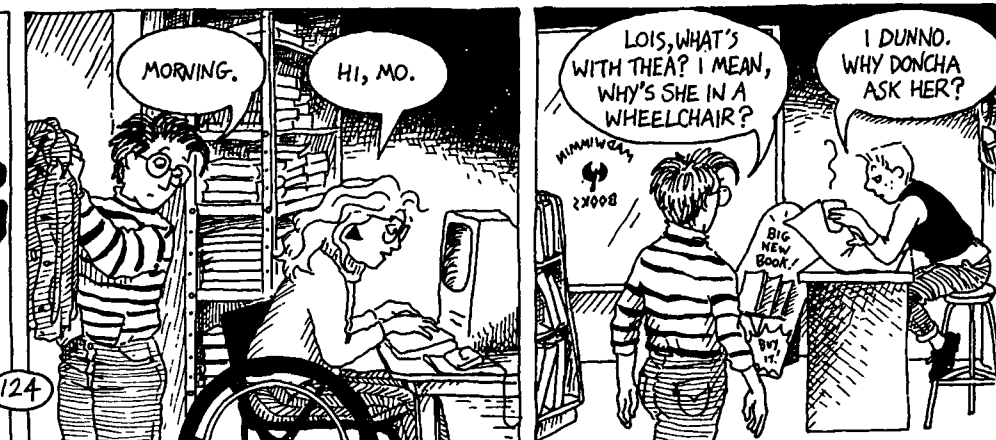
WHAT'S WRONG, HON? FEEL LEFT OUT? Y'KNOW, YOU'D LOOK ADORABLE IN A MATERNITY SMOCK.



...A ROLLING DONUT

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MORNING.

HI, MO.

LOIS, WHAT'S WITH THEA? I MEAN, WHY'S SHE IN A WHEELCHAIR?

I DUNNO. WHY DONCHA ASK HER?

YEAH. I KNOW IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, MO, BUT THE WHEELCHAIR DOESN'T IMPAIR MY HEARING AT ALL.

UH... SORRY. I WAS JUST WONDERING WHY YOU'RE... YOU KNOW... USING THAT IF NORMALLY YOU JUST USE CRUTCHES.

WELL THE CHAIR IS SO MUCH MORE DRAMATIC, DON'T YOU THINK? I USE IT WHEN I WANT PEOPLE TO FEEL EXTRA SORRY FOR ME.

UH...

HEY, I'M JUST KIDDING YOU. I'M REALLY USING THE CHAIR TODAY BECAUSE IT GOES SO GREAT WITH MY SHOES.



NO, SERIOUSLY. THE REAL REASON IS BECAUSE I TOOK MY CRUTCHES INTO THE SHOP FOR REPAIRS AND THEY WERE ALL OUT OF LOANERS! IT WAS THIS CHAIR OR A '76 HONDA!

THEA, I'M SORRY I...

NO! NO! THAT'S NOT IT! I'M USING THE CHAIR BECAUSE I TORE A HOLE IN THE SEAT OF MY PANTS THIS MORNING AND I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO MEND IT! HA HA HAW!



OKAY, OKAY—HEH HEH—FOR REAL NOW. I GET FATIGUED A LOT. ON BAD DAYS I USE THE CHAIR SO I HAVE MORE ENERGY FOR MY WORK AND STUFF.

YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED AFTER THAT LITTLE ROUTINE. WANT A DONUT?

THEA, DON'T EAT THOSE! THEY'RE FULLA SUGAR AND GREASE! POISON!

OH, BUT IT'S OK FOR LOIS TO HAVE THEM? I JUST LOVE WHEN ABLE-BODIED WOMEN GIVE ME NUTRITIONAL ADVICE.

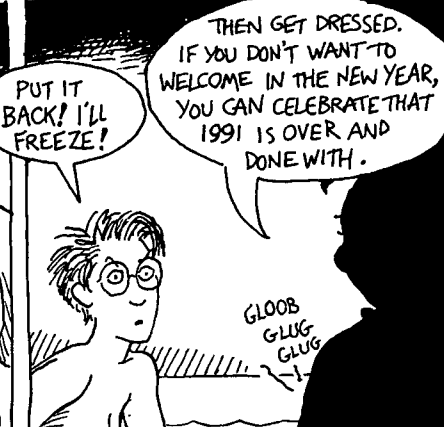
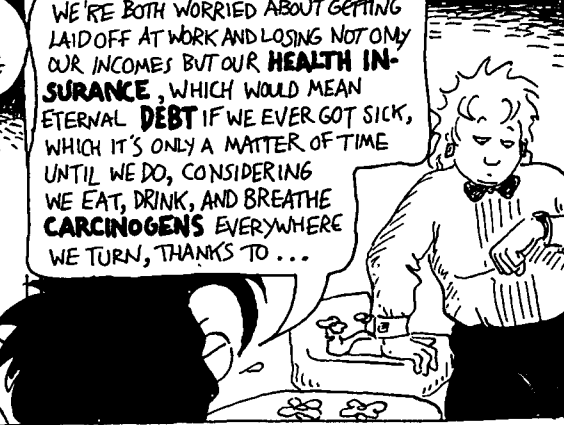
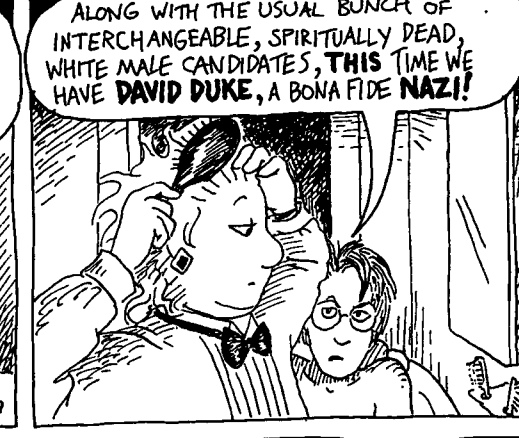
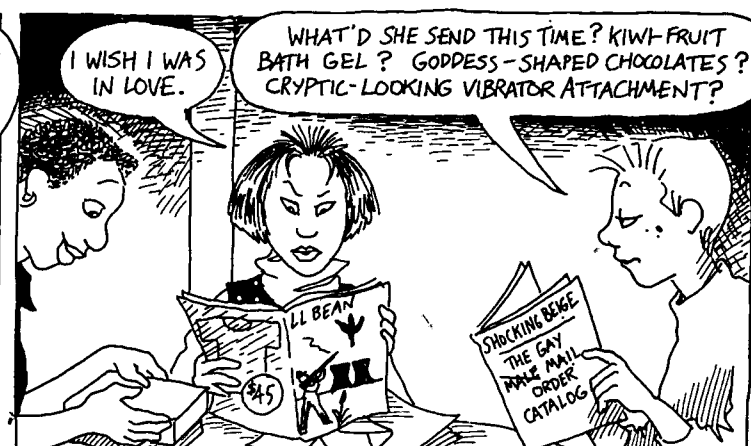
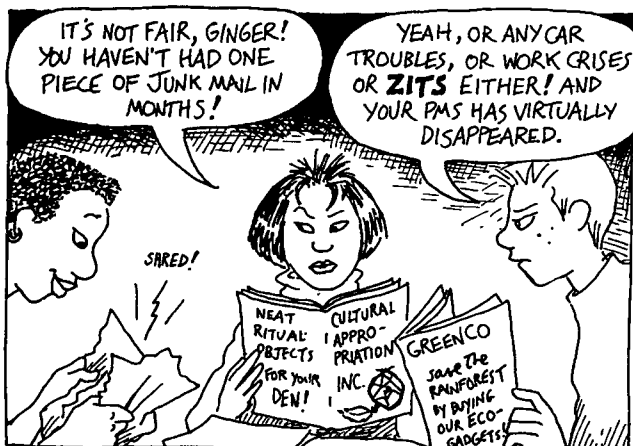
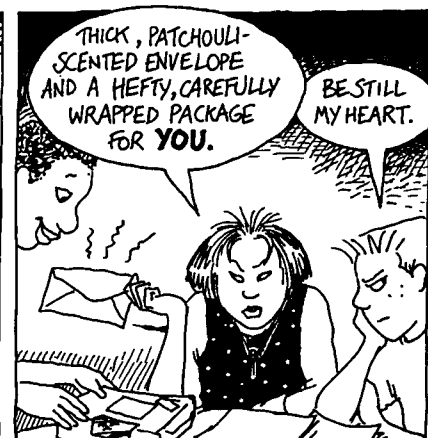
DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY, THEA. SHE SAID THE SAME THING TO ME 4,000 TIMES. IGNORE HER AND EVENTUALLY SHE GIVES UP.

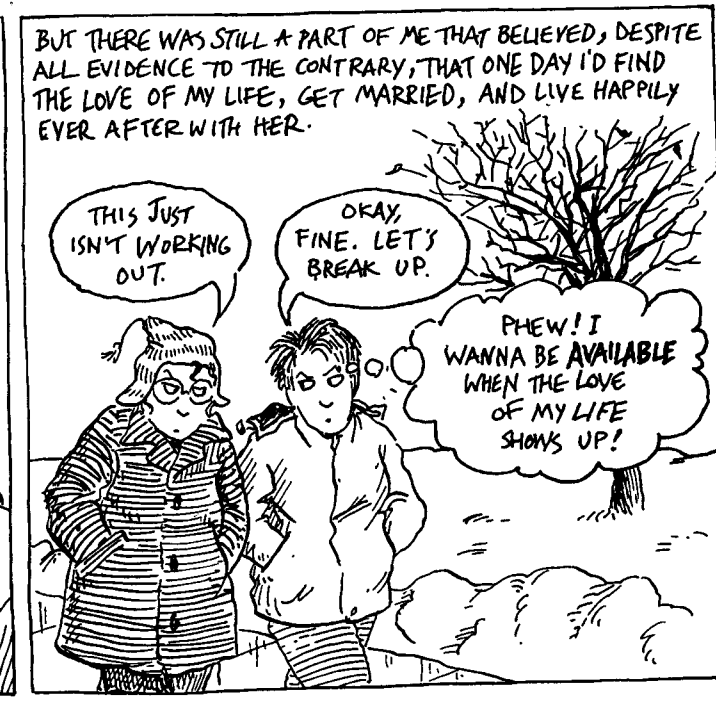
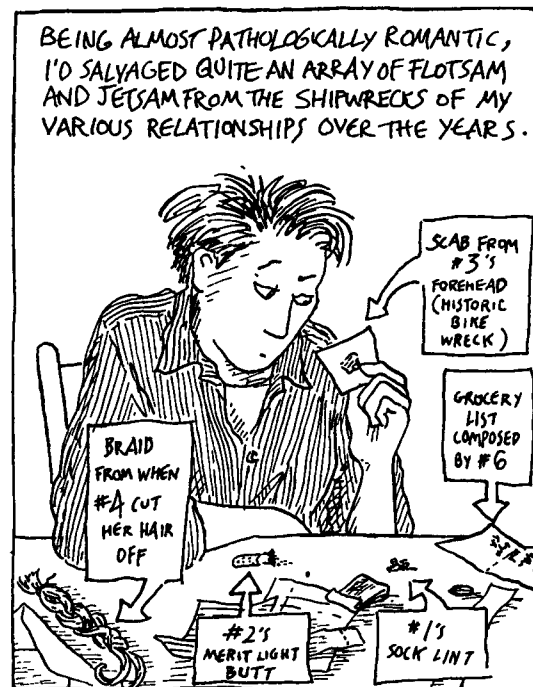
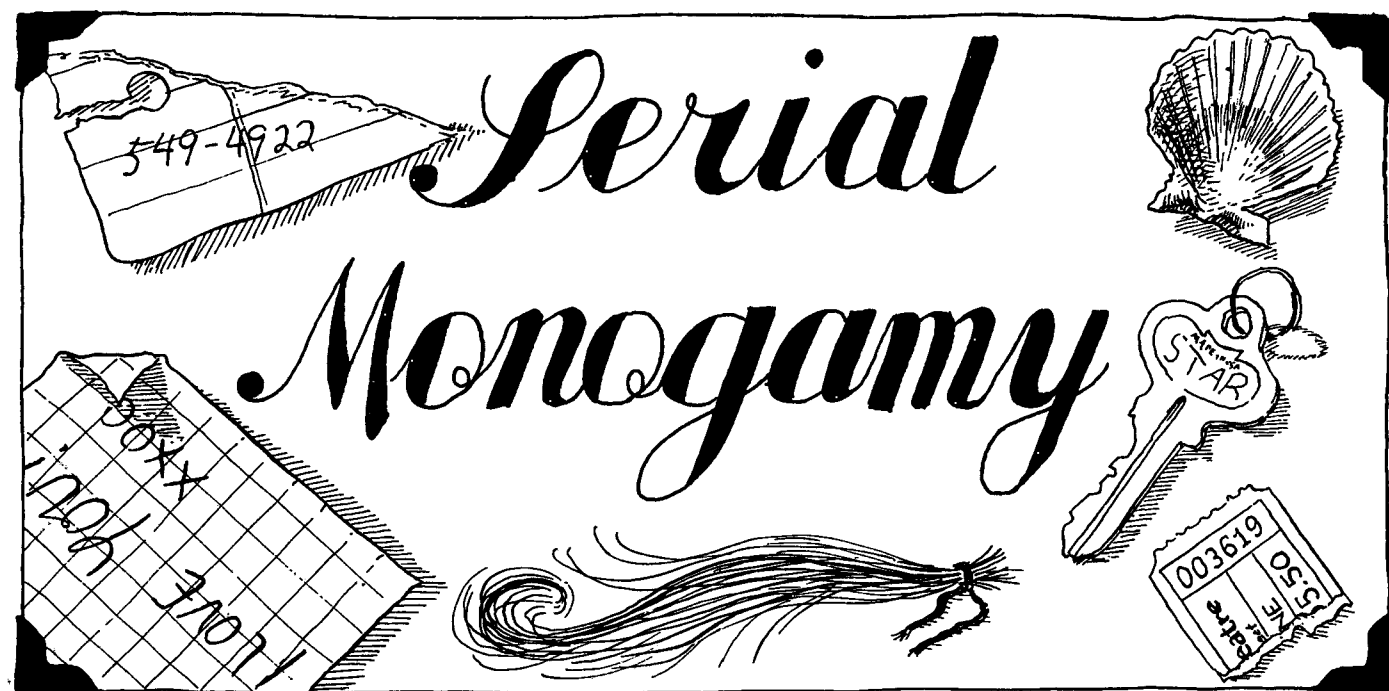
D'YOU HAVE ANY OF THOSE ONES WITH TOXIC-LOOKING SPRINKLES?





OUR TRIBADIC TRIO HAS JUST RETURNED HOME FROM THEIR VARIOUS PLACES OF EMPLOY.

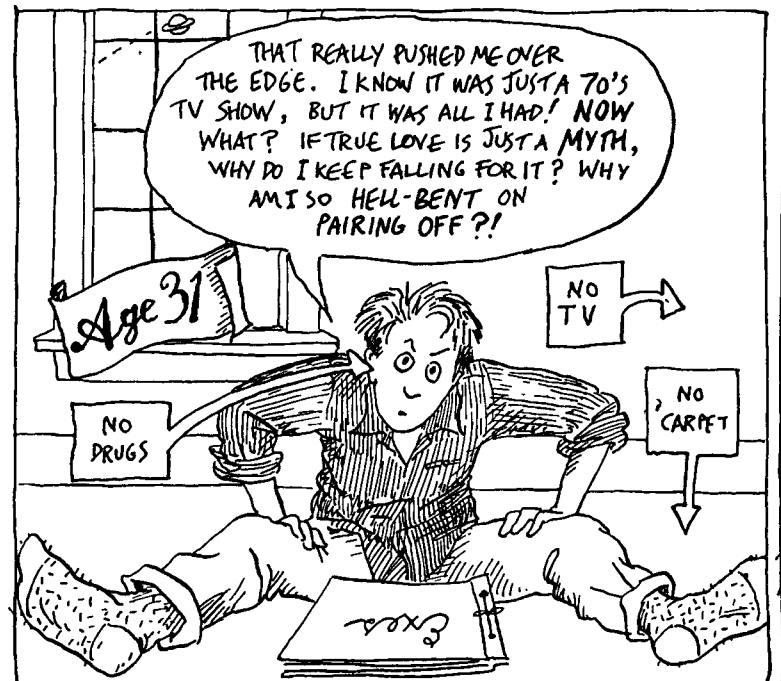




I DUNNO WHY. MAYBE I WATCHED TOO MUCH TV AS A KID. I LOVED ALL THOSE DUMB, PATRIARCHAL SIT-COMS ABOUT BLISSFULLY WEDDED COUPLES AND HAPPY FAMILIES. LIKE, YOU KNEW NOTHING REALLY BAD WAS EVER GONNA HAPPEN IN THE BRADY'S SPLIT-LEVEL RANCH HOUSE.



BUT RECENTLY, EVEN THAT LITTLE BUBBLE WAS CRUELLY BURST FOR ME. THE BRADY BUNCH WAS EVEN MORE DYSFUNCTIONAL THAN MY FAMILY.



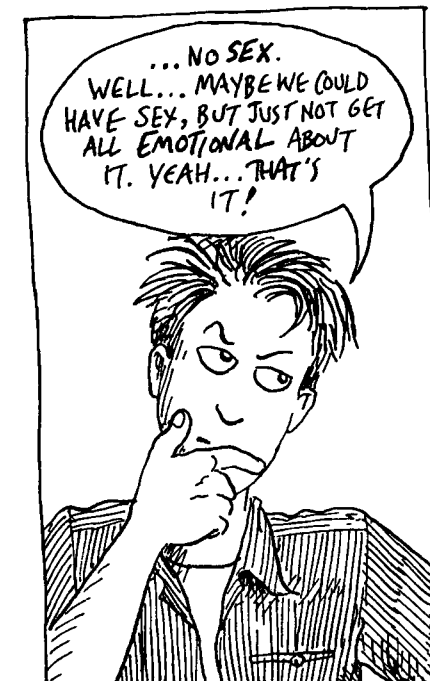
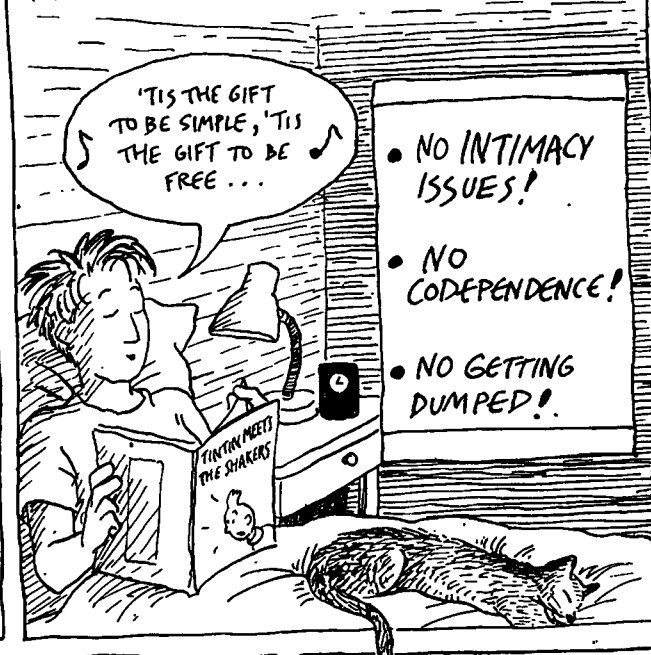
I KNOW THERE ARE ALTERNATIVES. CASUALLY GOING OUT WITH SEVERAL DIFFERENT WOMEN, FOR EXAMPLE. I THINK IT'S CALLED 'DATING'. BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO PULL IT OFF.



AND I CAN'T IMAGINE EVER HAVING THE ENERGY THAT COMMITTED NONMONOGAMY MUST REQUIRE.

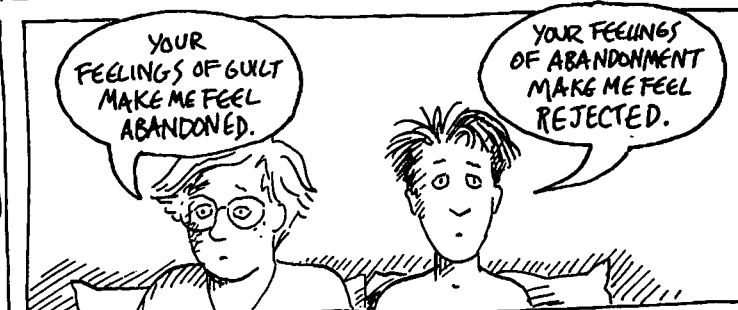
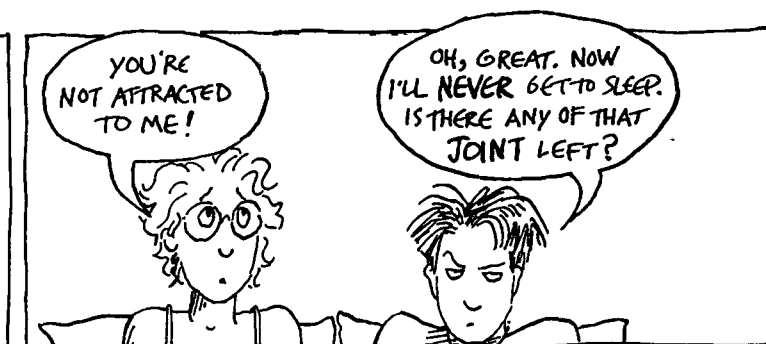
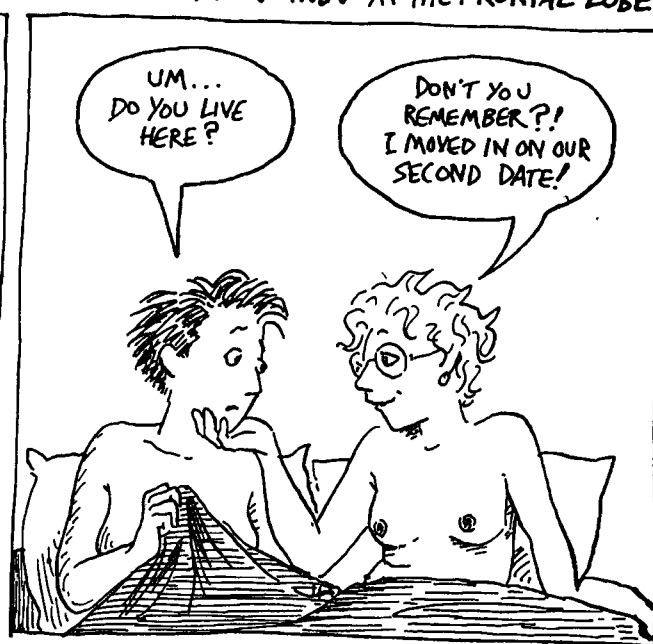


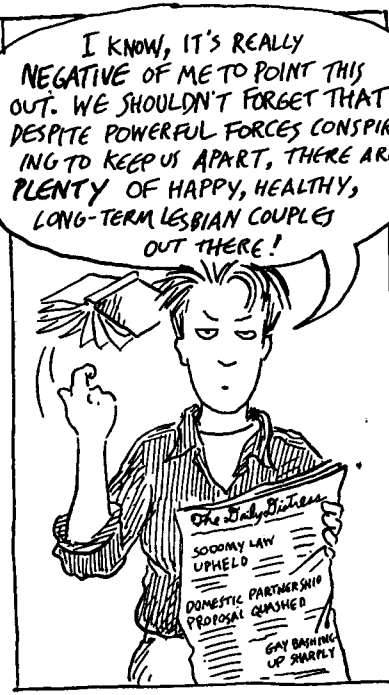
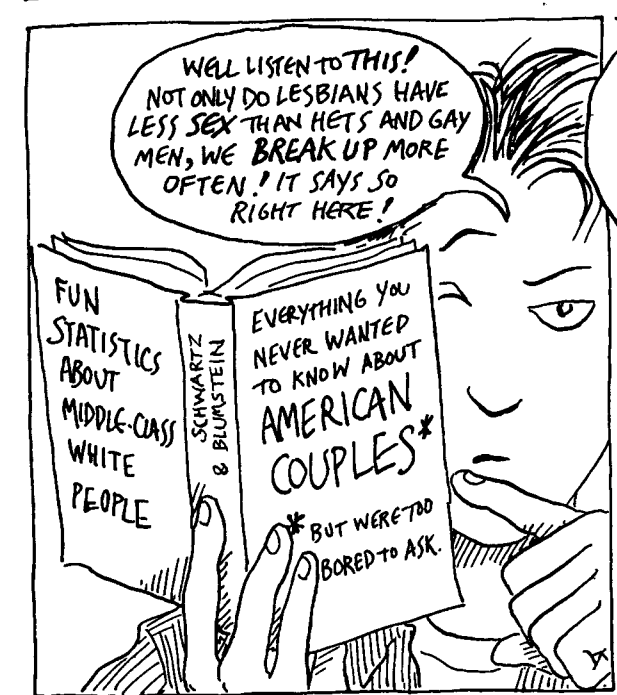
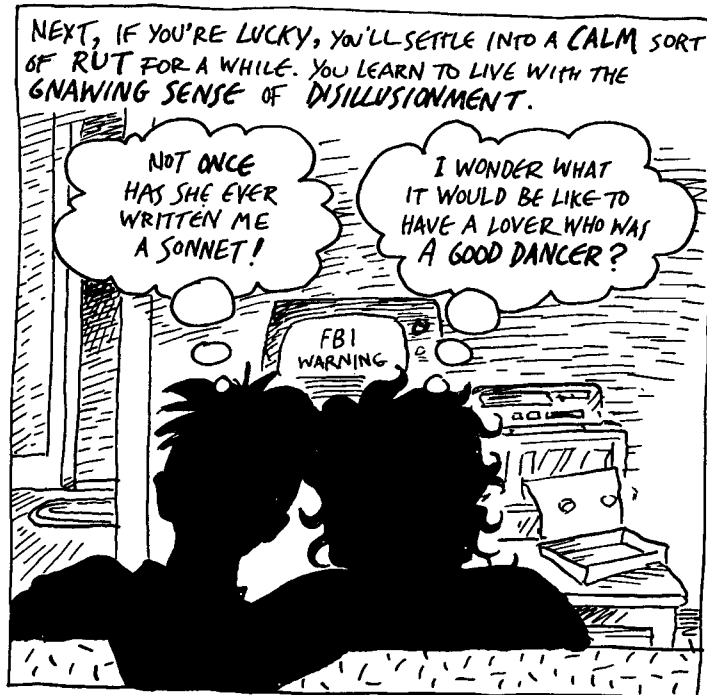
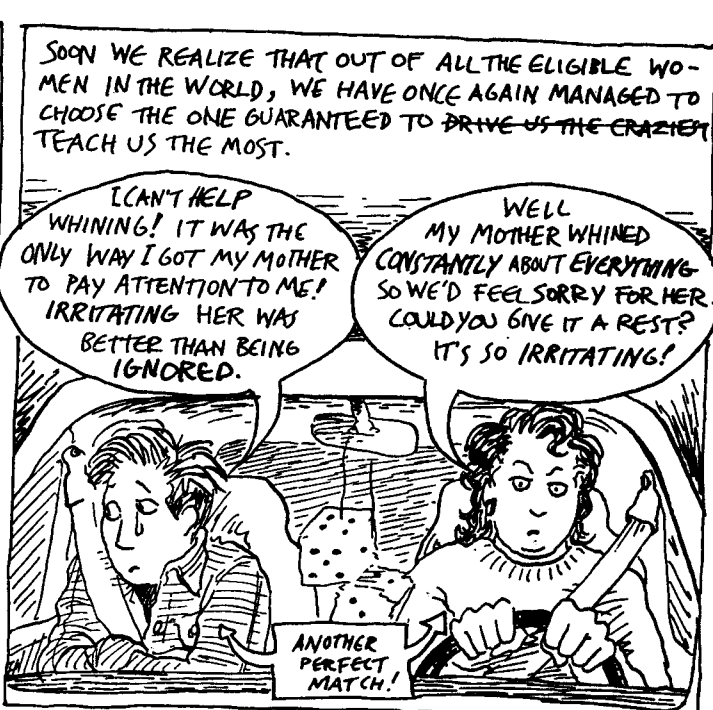
MAYBE CELIBACY IS THE ANSWER.



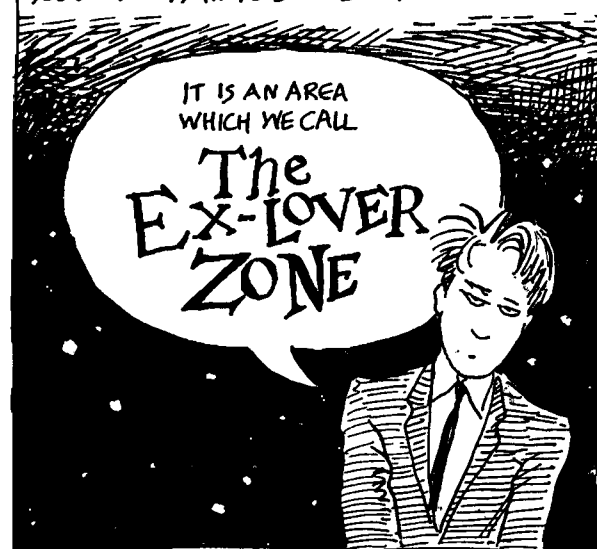


THEN YOU WAKE UP 6 MONTHS LATER... AND FIND THAT THE TWO OF YOU ARE JOINED AT THE FRONTAL LOBE.





WELL, I GUESS I SORT OF STILL AM WITH EACH OF THEM. I MEAN, ONCE YOU'VE BEEN THAT CLOSE TO SOMEONE, THERE'S A CERTAIN CONNECTION YOU'LL ALWAYS HAVE BETWEEN YOU.



JUST WHEN YOU THINK YOU'RE FINALLY FEELING RESOLVED ABOUT THINGS...



YOU WILL OBSERVE BIZARRE BEHAVIORAL CHANGES IN ONCE-RATIONAL WOMEN! FOR EXAMPLE, I ONCE HAD A LOVER WHO I WAS ALWAYS NAGGING TO STAY HOME AND COOK MORE WITH ME...



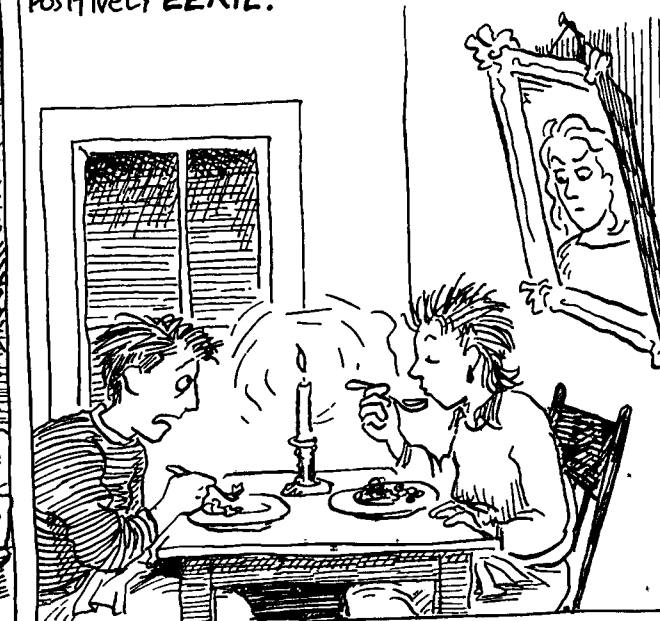
AFTER SHE GOT INVOLVED WITH SOMEONE ELSE, SHE WENT OUT AND BOUGHT A WHOLE SET OF BRAND NEW POTS AND PANS!



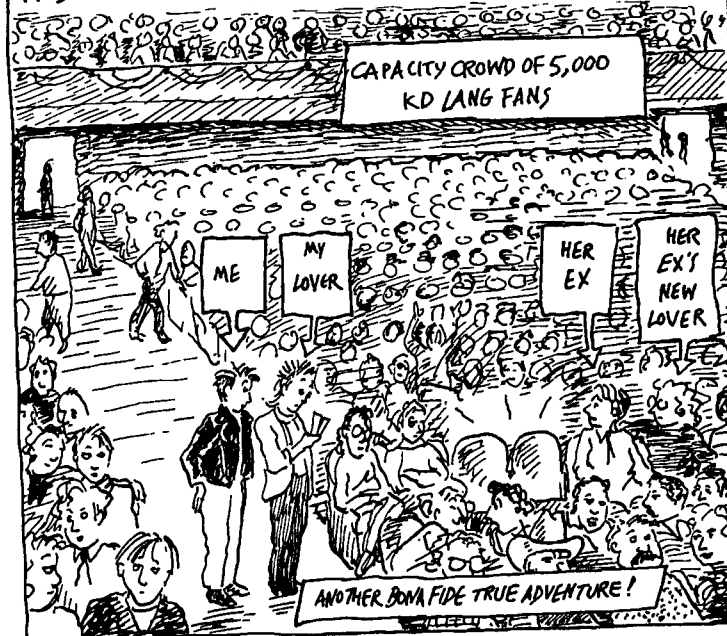
AND AS IF YOUR OWN ERSTWHILE PARTNERS DON'T MAKE LIFE STRANGE ENOUGH...



COPING WITH THOSE OF YOUR CURRENT LOVER CAN BE POSITIVELY EERIE!

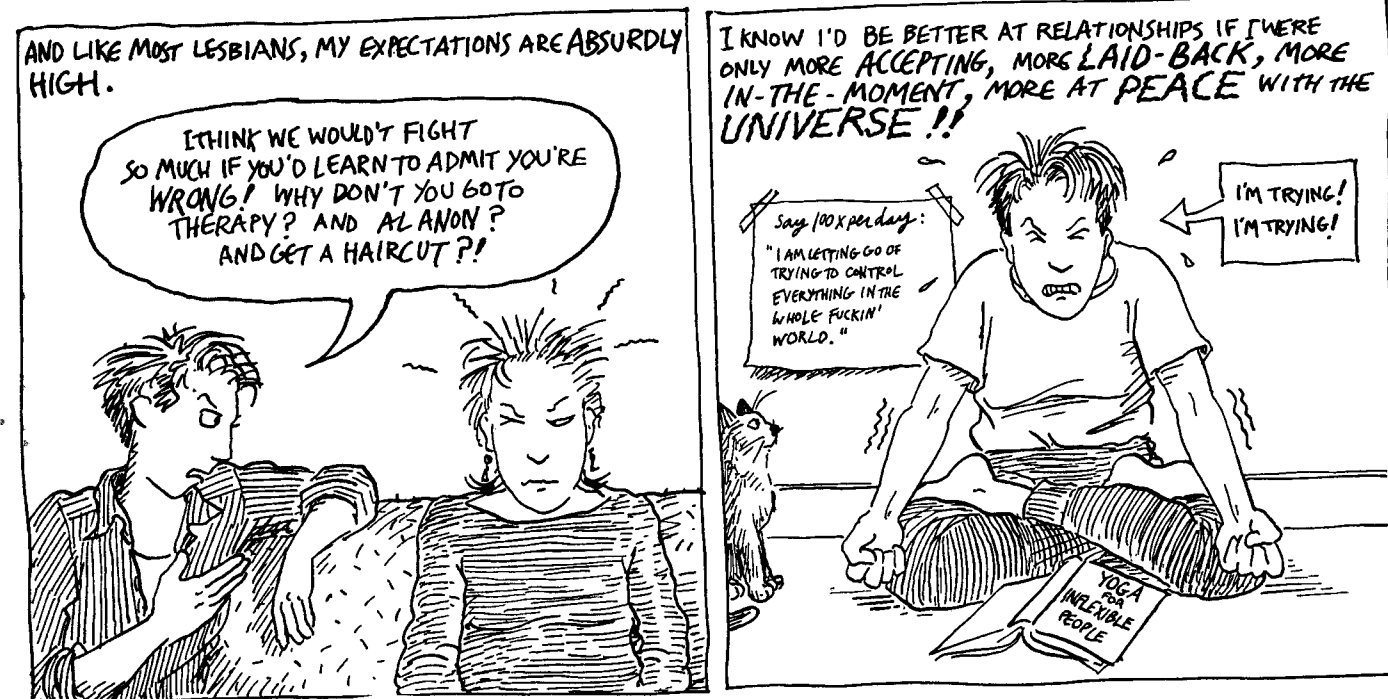
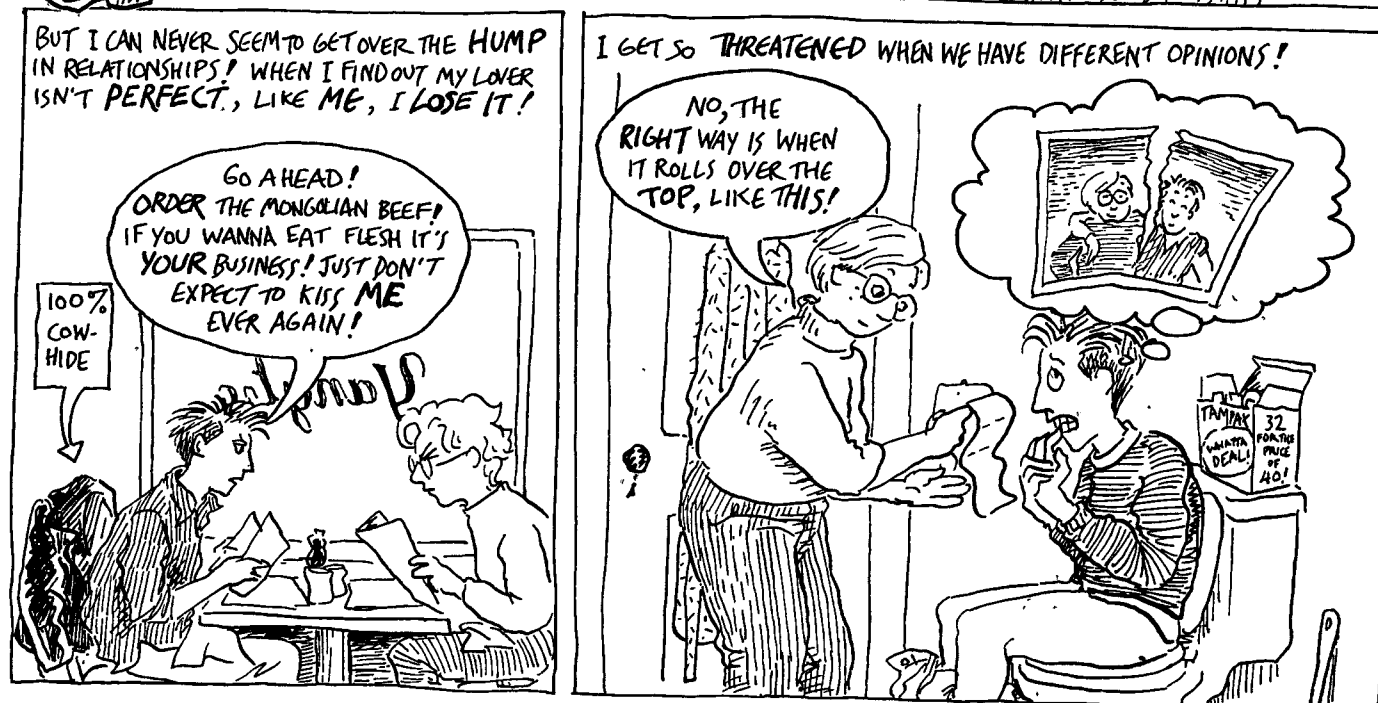
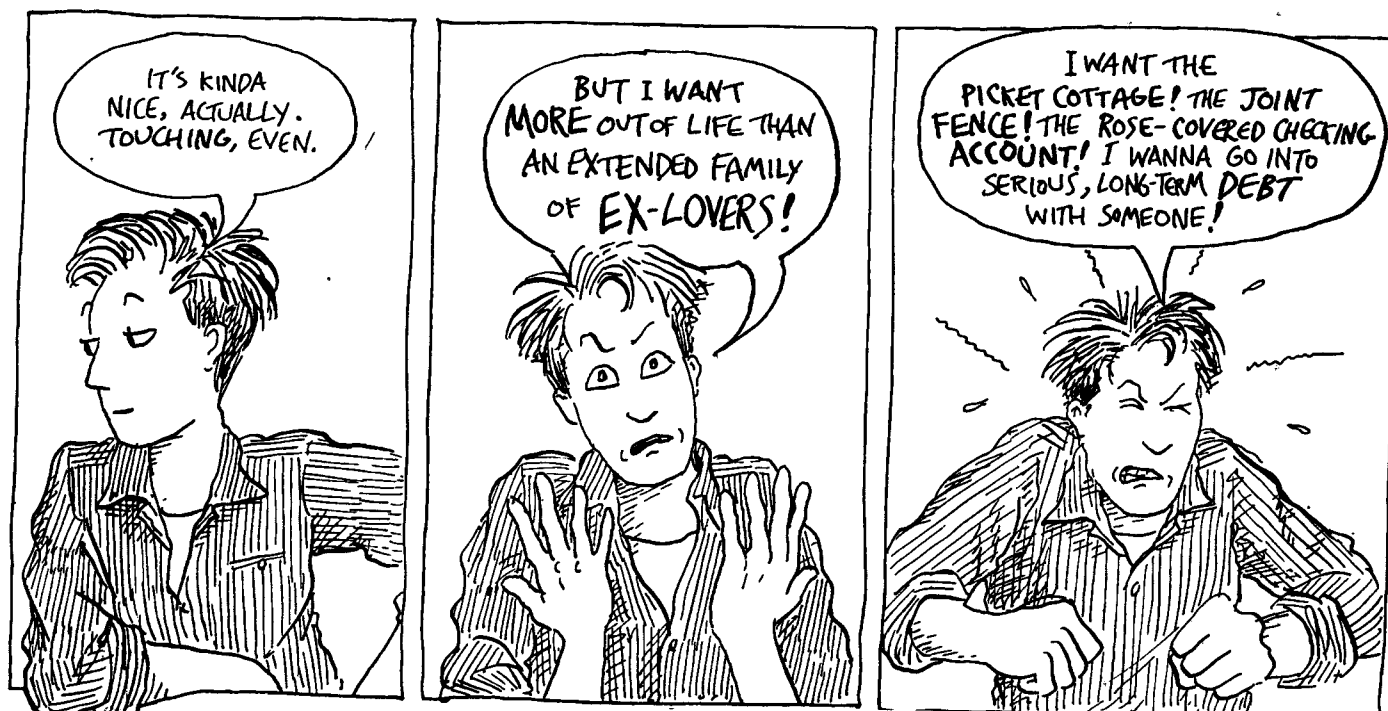


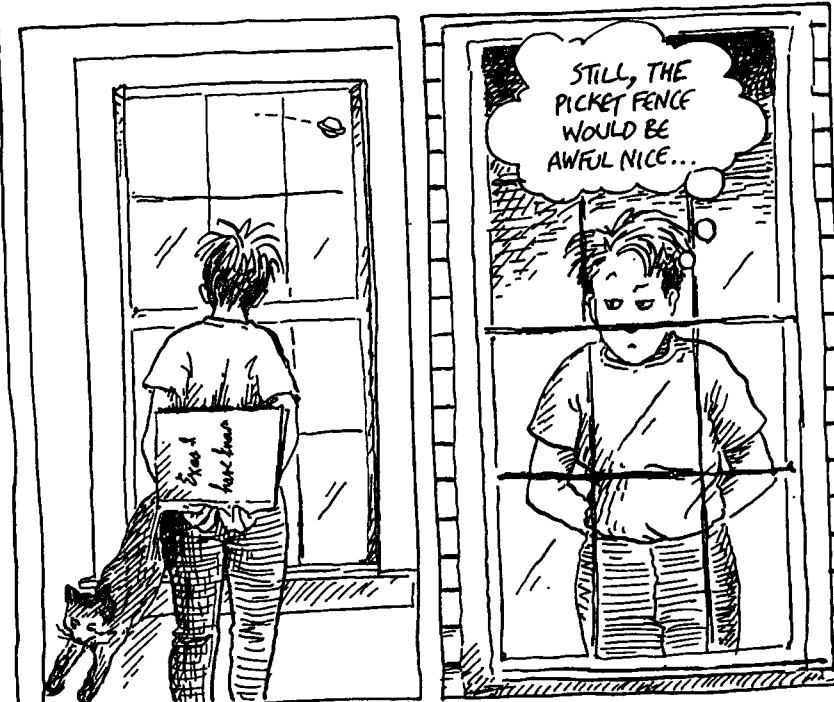
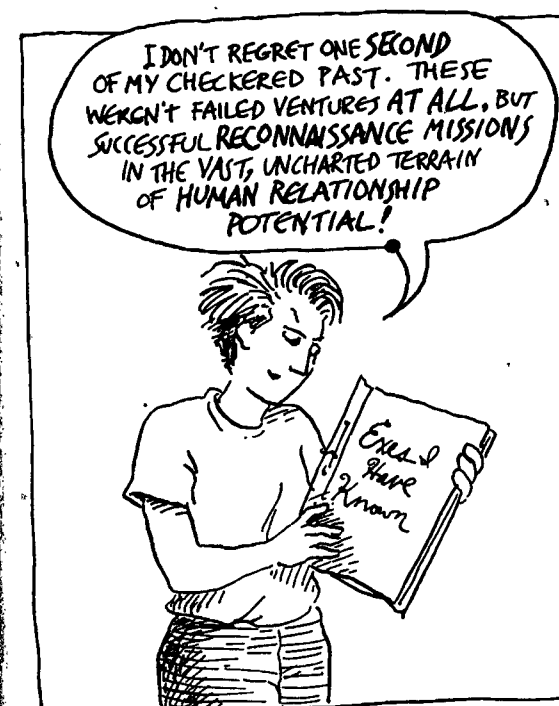
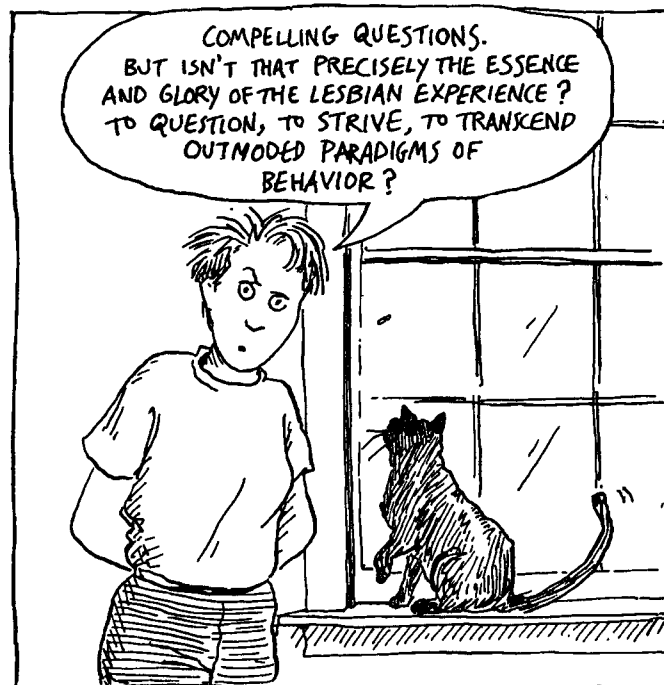
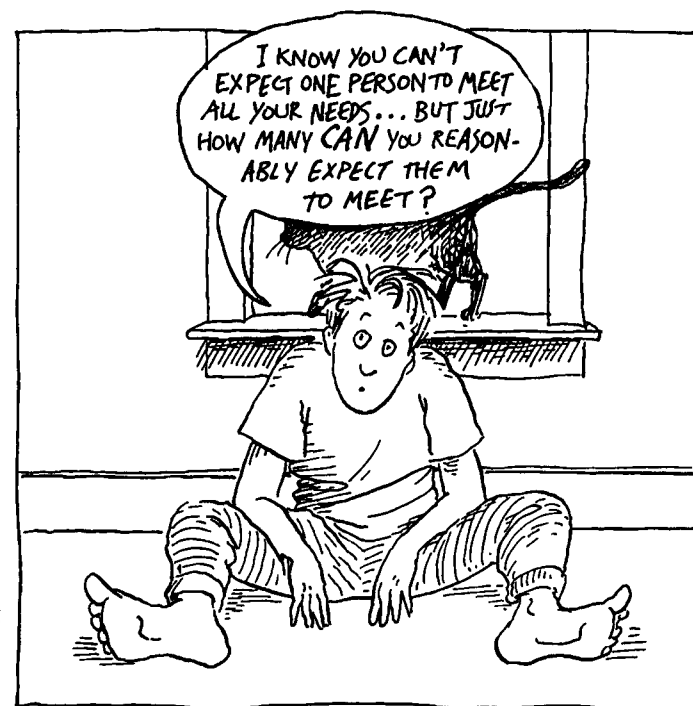
IT'S FUTILE TO TRY AND HIDE.



SO WHY BOTHER? IF YOU CAN'T BEAT 'EM, JOIN 'EM. I'M PROUD TO SAY THAT SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE EX-LOVERS! WEIRD AS IT CAN BE, THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE THAT BOND. NO MATTER WHO YOU GET INVOLVED WITH SUBSEQUENTLY, YOUR EX WILL ALWAYS HAVE KNOWN YOU LONGER.







--End